

# Little Island Spring/Summer 2024 Catalogue



# Little Island

Books create waves

Youth Libraries Association  
UK Publisher of the Year 2023

Books available to order worldwide:

Ireland & UK distribution: **GBS**

Sales representation Ireland & Northern Ireland:  
**Hackett Flynn** | [mail@hackettflynn.com](mailto:mail@hackettflynn.com)

Sales representation Great Britain:  
**Bounce Sales & Marketing** | [sales@bouncemarketing.co.uk](mailto:sales@bouncemarketing.co.uk)

North American distribution and sales representation:  
**Consortium Book Sales & Distribution**  
[ips@ingramcontent.com](mailto:ips@ingramcontent.com)

Also available from **Argosy** and **Gardners**



Books create waves



# Recent Awards for Little Island

**Youth Libraries Group Publisher of the Year 2023**

**IBBY Honour List 2024**

***The Táin***

by Alan Titley, illus. by Eoin Coveney

***Things I Know***

by Helena Close

**An Post Irish Book Awards: Teen and YA Book of the Year 2023**

***Black and Irish: Legends, Trailblazers & Everyday Heroes***

by Leon Diop and Briana Fitzsimons, illus. by Jessica Louis

**An Post Irish Book Awards: Children's Book of the Year (Senior) 2023**

***I Am the Wind: Irish Poems for Children Everywhere***

ed. by Sarah Webb and Lucinda Jacob, illus. by Ashwin Chacko

**White Raven Award 2023**

**Carnegie Medal for Writing shortlist 2023**

**YA Book Prize shortlist 2023**

**Kirkus Prize finalist 2023**

***The Eternal Return of Clara Hart***

by Louise Finch

**Literacy Association of Ireland Biennial Book Awards: Age 10-13 Award 2023**

**USBBY Outstanding International Books List 2023**

**Spark! School Book Award: Fiction Age 9+ Award 2022**

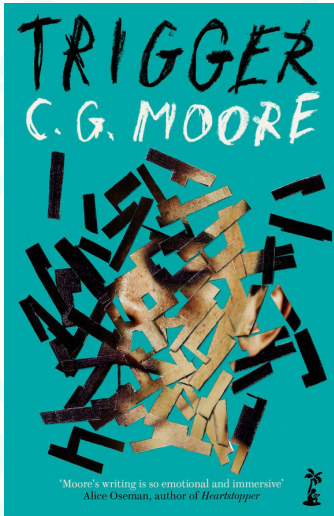
***Wolfstongue***

by Sam Thompson, illus. by Anna Tromop



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# New Spring/Summer 2024 titles



ISBN: 978-1915071538

Price: £8.99

Date: 7 March 2024

UK publicity managed by Antonia Wilkinson PR

*“Once the trigger is touched  
you can’t tell who to trust”*

## **Trigger**

by C.G. Moore

Teen & YA

**New YA from the  
winner of the 2022  
KPMG–Children’s  
Books Ireland Book  
of the Year winner**

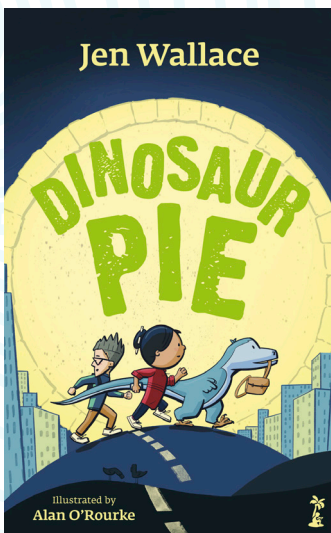
Jay wakes in a park, beaten and bruised. He can’t remember what happened the night before. But he has suspicions.

Jay realises he has been raped — and that his ex-boyfriend may have been involved.

Counselling sessions cause Jay to question everything. His new friend Rain encourages his pursuit of justice. Jay wants answers, but his search will lead him down a perilous path.

C.G. Moore is an Irish author based in Manchester. *Cut Feelings* won the Children’s Books Ireland Book of the Year Award in 2022 and was nominated for the Carnegie Medal for Writing 2022.

Chris has appeared at festivals including YALC and Bradford Literature Festival. He’s a passionate advocate for reading and is happiest when he’s meeting and helping to inspire young people.



ISBN: 978-1915071491

Price: £7.99

Date: 18 April 2024

UK publicity managed by Antonia Wilkinson PR

## **Dinosaur Pie**

by Jen Wallace  
& Alan  
O’Rourke

Age 6+

**A funny and warm  
illustrated debut  
by a graduate of  
the Children’s  
Books Ireland  
“Raising Voices”  
mentorship  
scheme**

Rory is having a weird week. A really weird week.

He has been turned into a ridiculous, small, feathered dinosaur. Pretty awkward.

He can’t use a human toilet. He can’t hold a video game controller in his dino claws. His breath smells really bad. And his new carnivore body can’t stop craving sausages.

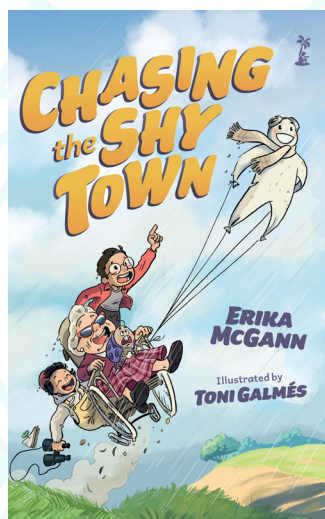
Rory finally gets his friends to take his embarrassing situation seriously, and together they embark on Operation Make Rory Human Again. But some people don’t want them to find out the truth.

Will Rory be stuck as a dinosaur forever?

Jen Wallace loves to write neurodivergent characters so people like her can see themselves in books. She lives in Cork with her family and their cats, goats, chickens and rabbit.

Alan O’Rourke is an Irish illustrator and award-winning, BAFTA-nominated marketer. He lives with his family beside the sea in the northeast of Ireland.





ISBN: 978-1915071514

Price: £7.99

Date: 6 June 2024

UK publicity managed by Antonia Wilkinson PR

## **Chasing the Shy Town**

by Erika McGann & Toni Galmés

Age 7+

**A whimsical, magical tale from one of Ireland's favourite children's writers**

Senan doesn't care for adventure. He'd rather watch the world go by from his bedroom window.

But when he spots the Shy Town — a hilltop town that vanishes and reappears on the horizon — he is fascinated. His fearless and fun-loving neighbour, Joshua Robyn, is convinced that she and Senan can find the Shy Town together.

Along with Senan's no-nonsense grandmother, they set out on an epic adventure, encountering wild storms, a boy made of paper, a nervous, beetle-like creature with remarkable abilities, and a mysterious town with an incredible secret.

Erika McGann is an award-winning author based in Dublin. She has written a wide range of children's books, including *Where Are You, Puffling?* and *Tabitha Plimtock and the Edge of the World*, which was awarded a White Raven by the International Youth Library. Toni Galmés is a Spanish illustrator who takes inspiration from cinema and comics as well as classic 19th- and 20th-century illustrations.

**Cover  
coming soon**



ISBN: 978-1915071552

Price: £8.99

Date: 4 July 2024

## **You Don't See Me**

by Chris Ricketts

Teen & YA

**A powerful and compassionate own-voices trans novel from a debut Irish author**

Ros has finally found Eddy, the girlfriend they've always wanted. But Ros can't tell her the truth: that they are trans, and want to live in a male body.

At a party Ros's classmates "discover" they're a lesbian – but that's not the true story. As Ros's life gets ever harder to navigate, a new friendship with a boy changes everything and Ros confides in him. Once the truth is out, things take on a momentum that Ros can't control.

Ros is surprised that their school turns out to be supportive of their identity. But what's the next move? Hormones? Surgery? And what will happen when Eddy finds out?

Chris Ricketts is a former teacher. They came out as non-binary in the 1990s and have campaigned ever since to raise awareness of trans people's issues, and to make Ireland a more understanding and welcoming place for trans people.

*"Ros, the main character, is a version of me. Hopefully, this book will help trans people on their journey, and help others to gain more understanding of trans people's everyday issues."*

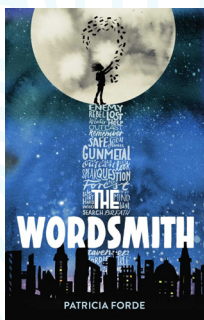


*“Her books always take my breath away.”*

Fallen Star Stories

Patricia Forde is the seventh Laureate na nÓg (Ireland's children's laureate). She has won two White Raven awards and has three times been shortlisted for the Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year. Her first novel *The Wordsmith* was published to great critical acclaim in 2015. In 2018 her book *Bumpfizzle the Best on Planet Earth* was chosen as the Dublin UNESCO Citywide Read 2019.

## The Wordsmith



Middle-grade | 9781912417124  
Paperback B-format £7.99

**White Raven Award 2015**

Speculative fiction with a powerful political premise

*“A novel that truly stands apart for its originality and relevance.”*  
The Irish Times

## Imagine!



4+  
9781912417483  
Paperback 250 X 205 mm £7.99

A light-hearted picturebook about using humour and imagination to overcome fears

## Bumpfizzle the Best on Planet Earth

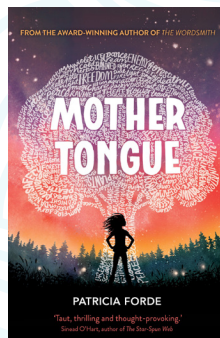


7+  
9781910411599  
Paperback B-format £6.99

Brilliantly funny story about sibling jealousy ... and aliens

*“So hilarious! Patricia Forde is definitely the high queen of Irish comedy.”*  
Eoin Colfer

## Mother Tongue



Middle-grade  
9781912417278  
Paperback B-format £7.99

Speculative middle-grade climate fiction, the sequel to *The Wordsmith*

## The Girl Who Fell to Earth



10+  
9781915071439  
Paperback B-format £8.99

**Shortlisted for the KPMG–Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year 2024**

*“The most casual reader of science fiction can snuggle cozily into the arms of this novel.”*  
The New York Times

  
Laureate  
na nÓg



## Author focus:

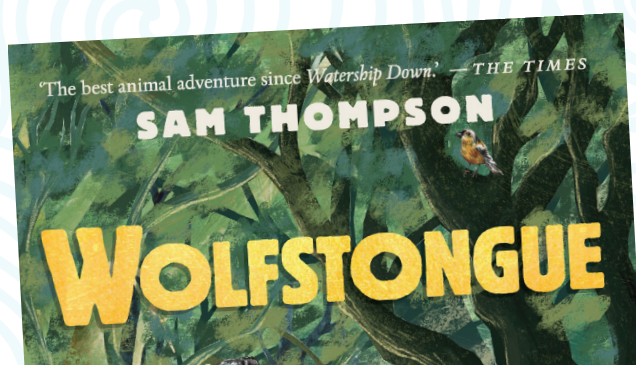
Sam Thompson



***“Sam Thompson is a visionary genius.”***

Author Piers Torday

Sam Thompson lives in Belfast and teaches English and creative writing at Queens University. *Wolfstongue* was his first book for children, followed by its sequel, *The Fox's Tower*. A third book in the trilogy, *The Forest Yet to Come*, will publish in October 2024. Sam's first book for adults, *Communion Town*, was longlisted for the 2012 Man Booker Prize.



### **Wolfstongue and The Fox's Tower**

Middle-grade

9781912417759 & 9781912417926

Paperback A5-format £8.99 & £9.99

**Winner, Literacy Association of  
Ireland Award 2023**

**Winner, The Spark School Book  
Award 2021–2022**

**Selected, USBBY Outstanding  
International Books for  
Children 2023**

**The Times Children's Book  
of the Week, 3rd of July 2021**

In his stunning middle-grade saga, Booker-longlisted Sam Thompson invites us into a hidden world of talking animals deep in the Forest, where language is power

***“The best animal adventure since  
Watership Down”***

The Times

***“One of the most extraordinary  
children's books I've ever read”***

Anthony McGowan,  
author of *Dogs of the Deadlands*

**Look out for the  
third part of the  
trilogy, *The Forest  
Yet to Come*,  
in October 2024.**





# Author focus:

Meg Grehan

Photo by Diarmuid O'Brien



*“A strong Irish voice crafting beautiful, important stories about mental illness and the lives of LGBT+ people.”*

The Arcade

Meg Grehan’s award-winning verse novels explore questions of mental illness, queer desire and identity. Since the breakthrough **The Space Between** Meg has established a loving community of readers with **The Deepest Breath** and **Baby Teeth**.

## The Lonely Book



10+

9781915071446

Paperback B-format £8.99

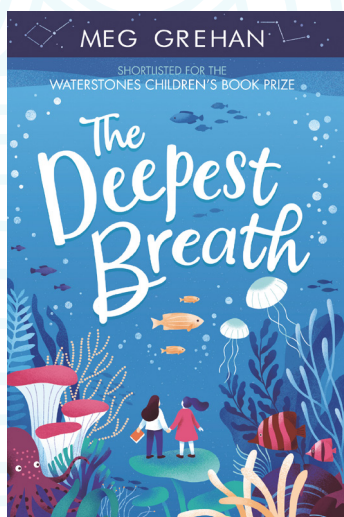
**Nominated for the  
Carnegie Medal 2024**

A kind, loving story about non-traditional family, gender identity — and the magic of bookshops!

*“This brave, kind novel in verse explores gender identity in an original way.”*

Sarah Webb, The Irish Independent

## The Deepest Breath



Middle-grade

9781912417186

Paperback B-format £6.99

**Children’s Books Ireland  
Judges’ Special Award 2020**

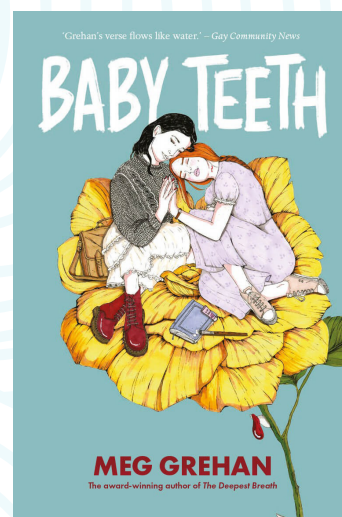
**Shortlisted for the Waterstones  
Children’s Book Prize 2020**

A beautifully written, lyrical and insightful story of one girl’s coming into full awareness of who she is

*“Grehan’s verse flows like water.”*

Gay Community News

## Baby Teeth



Young Adult

9781912417902

Paperback B-format £8.99

A unique verse novel of queer love, lust, and vampires. From the award-winning author of *The Deepest Breath* and *The Space Between*

*“Grehan’s verse novel skilfully charts uncertainty, temptation and the course of a strange, desperate love.”*

The Guardian



# Author focus:

Deirdre Sullivan

Photo by Diarmuid O'Brien

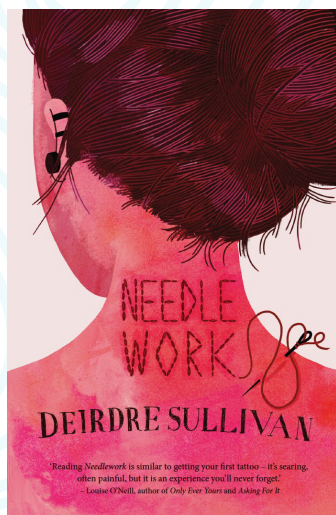


*“No-one else writes like Deirdre Sullivan. She is lyrical, poetic and thoroughly intoxicating.”*

Juno Dawson

Deirdre Sullivan is one of Ireland's most distinctive YA voices. Since publishing her first books with Little Island she has gone on to win major awards with hits **Tangleweed and Brine** and **Savage Her Reply**. She lives in Dublin with her husband and daughter and works as a teacher.

## Needlework



Young Adult  
9781910411506

Paperback B-format £7.99

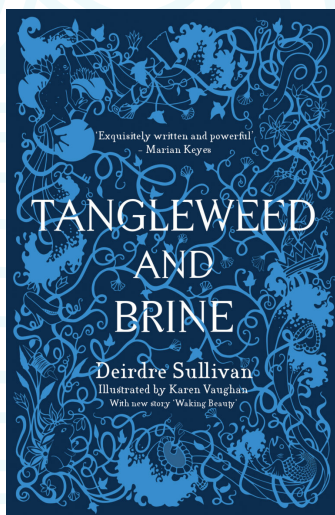
**Children's Books Ireland  
Honour Award for Fiction 2017**

A girl's meditation on her efforts to maintain her bodily and spiritual integrity in the face of abuse, violation and neglect

*“A powerful novel that deserves to be read.”*  
Sarah Crossan

## Tangleweed and Brine

Illustrated by Karen Vaughan



Young Adult  
9781912417117

Paperback 225 x 145mm £8.99

**Irish Book Awards YA  
Book of the Year 2017**

**Children's Books Ireland  
Book of the Year 2018**

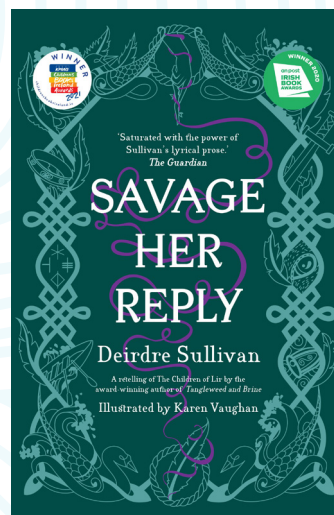
**Irish Times Ticket  
Reader's Choice  
YA Book of the Year 2017**

Fierce feminist retellings of classic fairytales including Sleeping Beauty and Cinderella

*“Exquisitely written and powerful.”*  
Marian Keyes

## Savage Her Reply

Illustrated by Karen Vaughan



Young Adult  
9781912417643

Paperback 225 x 145mm £9.99

**Irish Book Awards YA  
Book of the Year 2020**

**Children's Books Ireland  
Book of the Year 2021**

**Literacy Association of Ireland  
YA Book of the Year 2021**

A dark feminist retelling of classic Irish fairytale The Children of Lir that reclaims the voice of the witch Aífe

*“Saturated with the power of Sullivan's lyrical prose.”*  
The Guardian



# Author focus:

Siobhán Parkinson

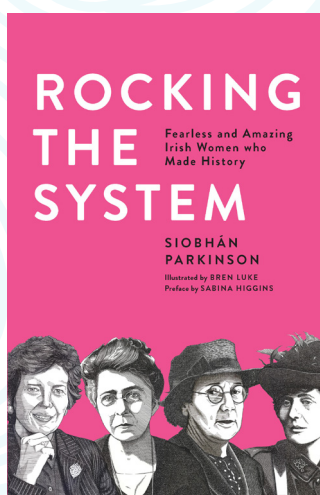


*“Parkinson’s narrative experiments are daring and intelligent. ... [She] combines formal experiment, well-defined character, and assured narration to create accessible, intellectually rewarding fiction that respects children’s emotional resources.”*

Oxford Encyclopaedia of Children’s Literature

Siobhán Parkinson is the author of more than 30 books for children, teens and adults, as well as several translations from German. She was Ireland’s first ever Laureate na nÓg (children’s laureate) and the founder of Little Island Books.

## Rocking the System: Fearless and Amazing Irish Women who Made History



11+

9781912417438

Paperback B-format £7.99

Twenty illustrated essays on Irish women who have defied cultural norms around femininity and achieved great things

*“Essential reading for young history buffs.”*

The Irish Times

## Evie’s Christmas Wishes



4+

9781912417797

Hardback picturebook

270 x 215mm £13.99

**Shortlisted for the  
Irish Book Awards 2021**

Christmas is coming, and Evie can hardly wait. As she rehearses for the school play, decorates the tree, wraps presents, writes to Santa, she is wishing, wishing ...

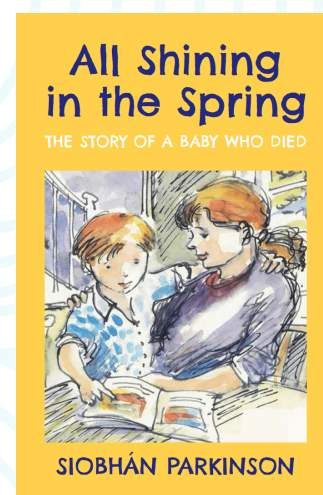
*“Captures the magnificence of the festive season perfectly. The illustrations by debut artist Shannon Bergin are fantastic.”*

Elaina Ryan, The Irish Times

*“A sheer delight from cover to cover.”*

RTÉjr

## All Shining in the Spring : The Story of a Baby Who Died



Illustrated by Donald Teskey

4+

9781912417575

Paperback B format

£6.99

A book to help children and families cope with the loss of a baby. Based on the author’s personal experience

*“Anyone who has experienced the loss of a baby; who is experiencing the loss of a baby will find solace in its pages.”*

Fallen Star Stories



# Author focus:

Sheena Wilkinson

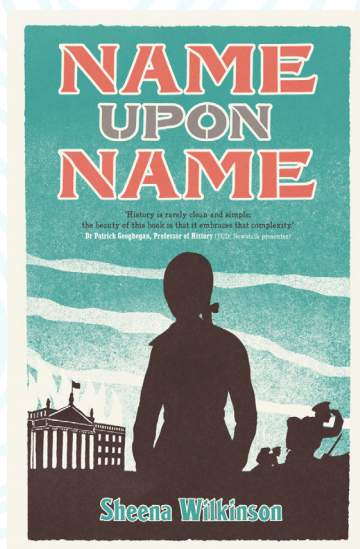


*“Belfast-born Wilkinson masterfully combines the big questions of nationalism, pacifism and early feminism in a way so subtle that you would barely notice.”*

The Irish News

Sheena Wilkinson is one of Ireland’s most acclaimed writers of fiction for young people. Her novels have won such awards as Book of the Year, Honour Award for Fiction and Children’s Choice at the Children’s Books Ireland awards, a White Raven and a place on the IBBY Honour List.

## Name upon Name



10+

9781910411360

Paperback B-format £6.99

Belfast 1916. Britain is at war with Germany. Helen’s family seems to be at war with itself

*“Wilkinson’s novel aims high in its literary aspirations”*

The Irish Times

## Star by Star



10+

9781910411537

Paperback B-format £6.99

**Selected as a Future Classic by BookTrust UK**

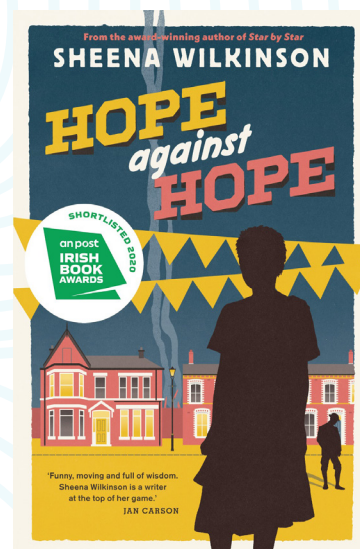
**Winner of the Honour Award for Fiction at the Children’s Books Ireland Book of the Year Awards 2018**

A tale of suffragettes and heroes, courage and survival, as war ends, flu sweeps the land – and women get to vote!

*“It has the assured tone of a classic.”*

Deirdre Sullivan,  
author of *Tangleweed and Brine*

## Hope against Hope



10+

9781912417421

Paperback B format £6.99

Ireland is at war, communities torn apart by bitter hatred – and now a hard border. But brave young women stand up for hope

*“I devoured this book in one furious reading session. Funny, moving and full of wisdom.”*

Jan Carson, winner of the EU Prize for Literature 2019



# More Key Titles

## 123 Ireland!



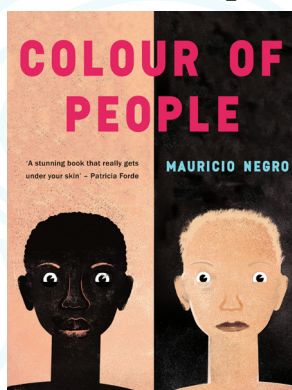
O+

9781912417377 & 9781912417872  
Boardbook 150 x 150mm  
£7.99 & £9.99

**Junior Children's Book of the Year at the Irish Book Awards 2019**

Learn your 123s and ABCs with iconic symbols of Ireland.

## Colour of People



3+

9781912417070  
Paperback picturebook 240 x 180mm £7.99

An intriguing silent picturebook about race invites children to look at and beyond the colour of people

## In the Garden

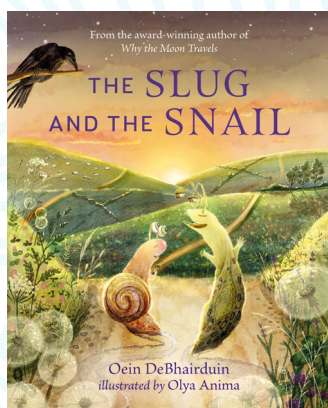


2+

9781912417490  
Hardback 14.5x25cm £12.99

See how we work through the seasons to make the plants and flowers grow

## The Slug and the Snail



4+

9781915071071  
Hardback picturebook  
250 x 200mm £14.99

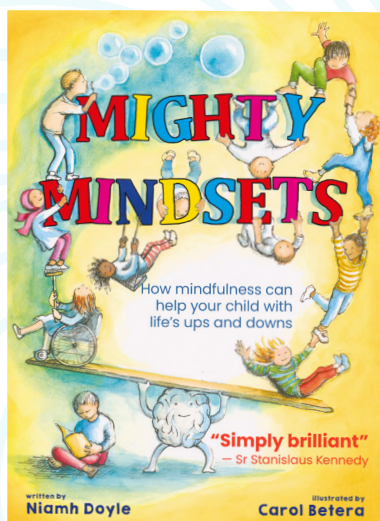
**Shortlisted for the An Post Irish Book Awards 2023**

**Nominated for the Carnegie Medal for Illustration 2024**

A tale drawn from in the oral tradition of the Irish Traveller community, by award-winning author Oein DeBhairduin. Co-published with Skein Press

Also available in Irish as **An Drúchtín agus an Seilide**  
(ISBN: 9781915071316)

## Mighty Mindsets: How Mindfulness Can Help Your Child With Life's Ups and Downs

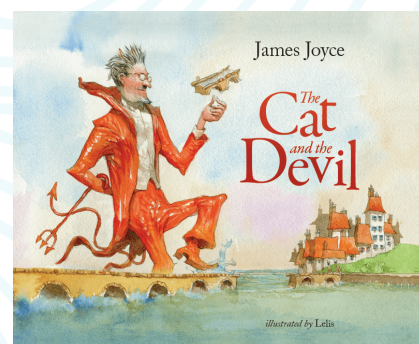


5+

9781912417865  
Paperback picturebook  
242 x 180mm £9.99

A gentle non-fiction picturebook about emotions, mindfulness, your amazing brain and how to feel calm

## The Cat and the Devil



Illustrated by Lelis

5+

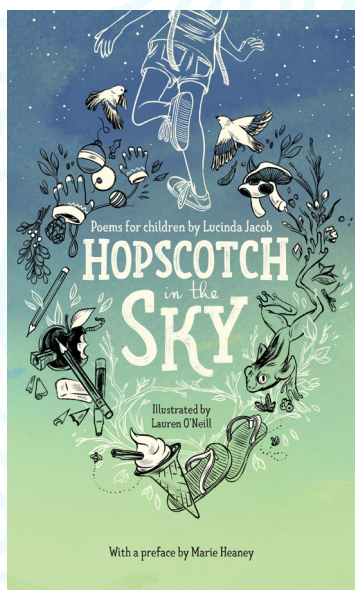
9781912417919  
Hardback 285 x 215 mm £13.99

A delightful children's story by James Joyce, in a gorgeously illustrated new edition



## More Key Titles

### Hopscotch in the Sky



7+

9781910411933

Hardback £10.99

A full-colour hardback poetry book for young readers

### The Very Dangerous Sisters of Indigo McCloud



Middle-grade

9781912417766

Paperback B format £6.99

An absurdly enjoyable dark adventure about a boy's mission to stop his evil sisters from terrorising the town

### I Am the Wind: Irish Poems for Children Everywhere



6+

9781915071460

Hardback picturebook 254 x 203mm £19.99

**Winner of an An Post Irish Book Award 2023**

**As seen on the RTÉ Late Late Toy Show 2023**

A brightly illustrated poetry collection including old favourites like Yeats and Heaney as well as diverse new voices

### The Táin: The Great Irish Battle Epic



8+

9781915071064

Paperback B-format £8.99

**Selected for the IBBY Honours List 2024**

A new children's retelling of Ireland's great epic legend featuring the hero Cúchulainn and the warrior Queen Maeve

## More Key Titles

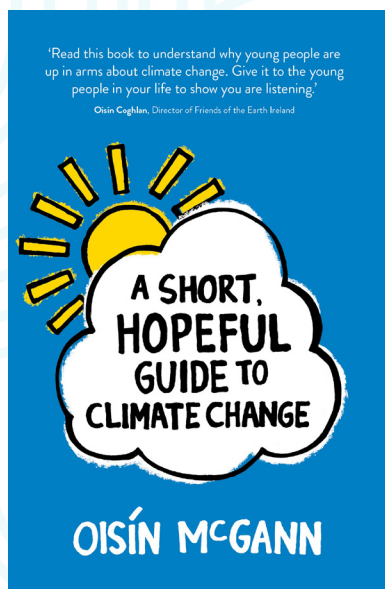
### Once upon a Place



Middle-grade  
9781910411377  
Paperback B format £11.99

A collection of short stories and poems by Ireland's top children's writers, edited and illustrated by Eoin Colfer and P.J. Lynch

### A Short, Hopeful Guide to Climate Change



12+  
9781912417742  
Paperback B format £8.99

Climate Change and how to fight it explained in a hopeful and eco-friendly book. Published in association with Friends of the Earth Ireland

### Black & Irish: Legends, Trailblazers & Everyday Heroes



12+  
9781915071064  
Paperback 216 x 135mm £11.99

**Winner of an An Post Irish Book Award 2023**  
**As seen on the RTÉ Late Late Toy Show 2023**

The first ever book to explore and celebrate Black Irish identity. The lives of 25 inspirational figures explored, including Ruth Negga, Rhasidat Adeleke, Emma Dabiri and Phil Lynott

### Run for Your Life



10+  
9781912417858  
Paperback B-format £7.99

**Shortlisted for the KPMG-Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year Awards 2023**

An engrossing story about Direct Provision, Ireland's asylum-seeker detention system



## More Key Titles

### Wildlord & Ghostlord



12+

9781912417971/ 9781915071033  
Paperback B format £7.99 & £8.99

A gripping teen fantasy saga  
filled with ancient sorcery

### Things I Know



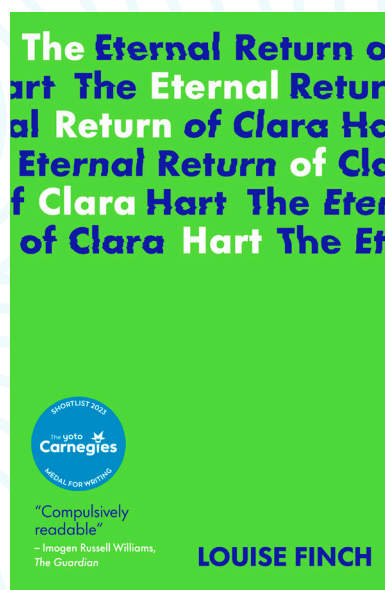
Young Adult

9781915071033 Paperback B-format £8.99

**Nominated for the Carnegie Medal 2023**  
**Shortlisted for the Literacy**  
**Association of Ireland Awards 2023**

Moving and unflinching YA exploring suicide,  
mental illness and recovery, from author of  
*The Gone Book*

### The Eternal Return of Clara Hart



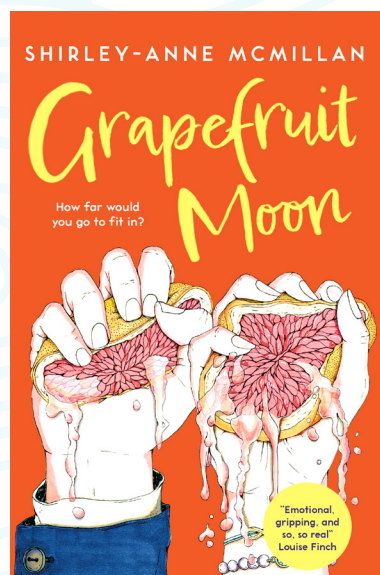
Young Adult

9781915071026 Paperback B-format £8.99

**Shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal 2023**  
**Winner of a White Raven 2023**  
**Selected for Kirkus Best YA of 2023**

A sensational time-loop thriller about toxic  
masculinity and sexual assault

### Grapefruit Moon



12+

9781915071422 Paperback B-format £8.99

**Longlisted for the KPMG-Children's Books**  
**Ireland Awards 2024**

The pressure— social and academic — is high for  
the teenage students of an elite secondary school in  
Belfast. Can poetry, friendship and a trip to Spain  
give them the courage to be true to themselves?

**Little Island Spring/Summer  
2024 Catalogue**



# Little Island

**Books create waves**

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