

# david higham

literary, film and tv agents



## Children's Highlights London Book Fair 2017

# [Highlights]

For more information please go to our website to browse our shelves and find out more about what we do and who we represent.

## Contents

Age 7 to 9	4 - 8
Age 8 to 12	9 - 13
Young Adult	14 - 15

## Agents

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Film & TV Rights: Nicky Lund; Clare Israel; Georgina Ruffhead

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# [Lyttle Lies 2: The Snowball Effect]

**Joe Berger**

Age 7 - 9



**UK:** Simon & Schuster - January 2018

**UK Editor:** Lucy Rogers

**US Rights:** Margaret McElderry Books,  
Simon & Schuster - May 2018

**US Editor:** Ruta Rimas

**Primary Agent:** CW

**Translation Rights:** DHA

**Film/TV Rights:** DHA (CI)

## **Additional Info:**

Extent - 240 pages

Illustrations - Throughout, black and  
white line drawings by the author

Material Available - 1 page synopsis,  
unedited manuscript due September  
2017

## **Rights Sold in The Pudding Problem:**

French - Éditions Larousse

German - Mixtvision

Italian - Il Castoro

Norwegian - Fontini

Turkish - Indigo Kitap

## **Subagents:**

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

## **Can Sam get through the whole summer without telling a lie?**

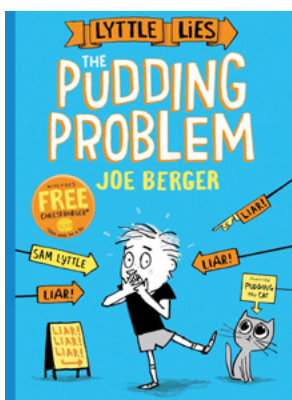
A long, hot summer of fun beckons for Sam and Charlie but they're wishing it away in anticipation of the first Wolfe Stone movie, which opens at the end of the holidays. Sam's mum issues a challenge: if, and only if, Sam can make it through the entire holiday without telling a single fib, will he be allowed to see his crime-fighting hero on the big screen. Six whole weeks, without a single porky!? No problem. Until the small matter of a tray of snowball cakes in the larder with a Sam-sized footprint in them threatens to end Sam's dreams. Can he continue to steer clear of lying, while not having to reveal the actual reason he was in the larder, in the dark, standing on a table to get to the top shelf to hide 'the thing that shall never be named'?

**Joe Berger** has written two children's picture books featuring Bridget Fidget and illustrated many more including *Hubble Bubble*, *Granny Trouble* by Tracey Corderoy, *Dot* by Randi Zuckerberg and *Girl and Gorilla* by Rick Walton. Joe was chosen by the Ian Fleming Estate to illustrate Frank Cottrell Boyce's three new stories featuring *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. He also writes and draws comic strips and cartoons, many in collaboration with Pascal Wyse as Berger & Wyse. This is the second title in the *Lyttle Lies* series.

## **Praise for Lyttle Lies: The Pudding Problem:**

'Truly funny, drawn with energy and a sense of silliness... Sam is entirely sympathetic and his arrival is to be welcomed.'  
- *The Sunday Times*

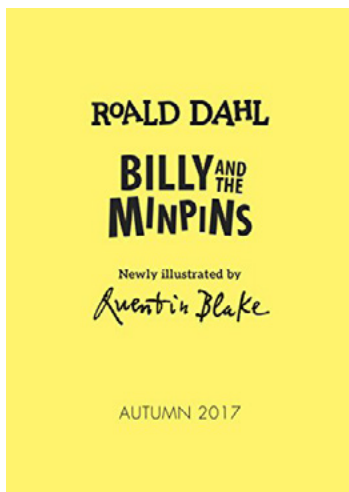
'*The Pudding Problem*, in among gags about burping and vomiting, offers a fairly high level of subtlety, sensitivity and sophistication. Sam may be a fantasist, but imagination, correctly channelled can be a powerful positive force.'  
- *Financial Times*



# [Billy and the Minpins]

**Roald Dahl, illustrated by Quentin Blake**

Ages 7 - 9



**“Beware! Beware! The Forest of Sin! None come out,  
but many go in!”**

This autumn, Roald Dahl fans can complete their collection with a brand-new edition of Roald Dahl’s final children’s book, *The Minpins*, reimagined by Quentin Blake. Publishing in an exciting hardback edition featuring Quentin’s iconic black-and-white illustrations, the book will have a ‘new’ title. *Billy and the Minpins* was a title Roald himself contemplated in an early draft of his story. This title celebrates Billy as the quintessential Roald Dahl child hero that he is, and puts him on equal footing with the likes of Charlie, James and Matilda.

*Billy and the Minpins* is the story of heroic Billy who saves the Minpins, tiny tree-dwelling people whose children are the size of matchsticks, from the fearsome Gruncher. It explores themes seen in many of Roald Dahl’s other much-loved children’s novels including; small people living in a big world; the glory of flight; confronting demons; and, most importantly, the child hero. In *Billy and the Minpins*, readers will experience again the magical collaboration between Roald Dahl and Quentin Blake through a brand-new interpretation of Roald’s parting gift.

*The Minpins* was first published in 1991, illustrated by Patrick Benson in a beautiful colour picture-book format. This edition is still in print today and will sit alongside the new black-and-white edition, *Billy and The Minpins*.

**Roald Dahl** was a spy, ace fighter-pilot, chocolate historian and medical inventor. He was also the author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Matilda*, *The BFG* and many more brilliant stories. He remains the World’s No.1 storyteller.

**Sir Quentin Saxby Blake** is an English cartoonist, illustrator and children’s writer. He may be known best for illustrating books written by Roald Dahl. For his lasting contribution as a children’s illustrator he won the biennial, international Hans Christian Andersen Award in 2002, the highest recognition available to creators of children’s books. From 1999 to 2001 he was the inaugural British Children’s Laureate. He is a patron of the Association of Illustrators

**UK:** Penguin - Autumn 2017 (reissue)

**UK Editor:** Anthea Townsend

**US Rights:** Penguin US - Autumn 2017

**US Editor:** Eileen Kreit

**Primary Agent:** AG

**Translation Rights:** DHA

**Film/TV Rights:** Casarotto and Ramsay

**Additional Info:**

Extent - 52 pages

Illustrations - YES (by Quentin Blake)

Material Available - New illustrated files due 31st May 2017

**Subagents:**

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

# [Popcorn-Eating Squirrels of the World Unite!]

**Matt Dickinson**

Ages 7 - 9



## A fast and funny squirrel escape caper

Squirrels, as everyone knows, eat nuts and acorns. But Cassie, Ben and Alfie are three squirrels in a pickle. Their park is flooded and all their winter supplies are waterlogged. So they follow their noses to the local cinema, where they discover the deliciousness that is popcorn! But Rosalba, the owner of the Rex, is most displeased by a glimpse of the 'vermin' and calls in the comically malicious Honey Badger Brothers to deal with the pests, while she admires her new Pop-O-Matic 3000 – a beast of a popcorn machine.

What nobody could have predicted was what would happen if the squirrels themselves accidentally got 'popped' in the machine. This gives them the powers they need to escape from the Honey Badgers – for now...

As the series develops, the squirrels will follow the Pop-O-Matic 3000 around the world, to the pyramids of Egypt, up Everest, and even into Buckingham Palace, with ruthless Rosalba never far behind.

**Matt Dickinson** is a writer and film-maker with a fascination for people who push the limits. He has filmed on the summit of Mount Everest and his bestselling account of that ascent, *The Death Zone*, was published by Random House. OUP published his adrenaline-fuelled YA series *Mortal Chaos*. Vertebrate publish his *Everest Files* trilogy. Matt is in demand as a visiting author at schools and festivals around the UK and abroad.

### Praise for Matt Dickinson:

'Matt Dickinson, who made a successful ascent of Everest's perilous North Face in 1996, has followed up his excellent *Mortal Chaos* YA trilogy with the first of what will be a trio of thrillers set in Nepal. *The Everest Files*, a gripping and touching story, is a fine start.' - *The Telegraph* (on *The Everest Files*)

'A sharp, thoughtful and delightfully original thriller.'  
- *The Independent*, 50 Best Summer Reads (on *Mortal Chaos*)

**UK:** Vertebrate Publishing -  
September 2017

**UK Editor:** Jon Barton

**US Rights:** DHA (AW)

**Primary Agent:** AW

**Translation Rights:** DHA

**Film/TV Rights:** DHA (CI)

### Additional Info:

Extent - TBC

Illustrations - YES (black and white  
throughout, illustrator TBC)

Material Available - Edited  
manuscript due April 2017

### All Titles and Previous Publishers

#### Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

# [The Boy With Electric Feet]

**Alexander McCall Smith**

Age 7- 9



**UK:** Barrington Stoke - Autumn 2017

**UK Editor:** Emma Hargrave

**US Rights:** DHA (CW)

**Primary Agent:** CW

**Translation Rights:** DHA

**Film/TV Rights:** DHA (GR)

**Additional Info:**

Extent - TBC

Illustrations -YES (TBC)

Material Available - Unedited manuscript

**All Titles and Previous Publishers**

**Subagents:**

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

## **Saving the world one dance routine at a time!**

Hari is just an ordinary boy, living in India with his aunt and his sister, but the day he sees a Bollywood film being made, he's inspired to dance.

Amazingly, he turns out to be an exceptional dancer - and the most extraordinary thing is that Hari's dancing is infectious! Whoever witnesses him twirling and leaping can't help but join in right away - even animals!

Hari's friend, old Mr Ram, has a feeling that Hari's talent can be put to good use. But can Hari possibly use his electric feet to bring about world peace?!

**Alexander McCall Smith** is best-known as the author of the internationally acclaimed *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series but has also written more than forty children's books including *The Perfect Hamburger*, now a Puffin Modern Classic, the *Akimbo* series and the new *School Ship Tobermory* series.

### **Praise for *School Ship Tobermory*:**

'Sure to delight readers of any age.' - *Edinburgh Life*

'Written by Alexander McCall Smith, with all that means in terms of style and humour... what joy!' - *The Scotsman*

'With Alexander McCall Smith's detailed knowledge of sailing and his easy style of writing, this proved to be a really enjoyable book, complimented by comic strip style illustrations from Iain McIntosh.' - *Women Together*



# [The Secrets of the Superglue Sisters]

**Susie Day**

Ages 8 - 12



**UK:** Puffin - July 2017  
**UK Editor:** Ruth Knowles  
**US Rights:** DHA (CW)  
**Primary Agent:** CW  
**Translation Rights:** DHA  
**Film/TV Rights:** DHA (CI)

**Additional Info:**

Extent - 320 pages  
Illustrations - NO  
Material Available - Unedited manuscript

**All Titles and Previous Publishers**

**Subagents:**

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media  
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

## Will becoming sisters mean staying friends is impossible?

Georgie and Jem have been best friends for ages – they bonded over being last to be picked up from the playground after school and because they were both “the Product of Divorce”. But now they’re going to be even more than friends – Jem’s dad and Georgie’s mum have fallen in love and they’re all moving in together, along with Jem’s younger brother and sister.

Everyone’s going to live happily ever after... Except that life’s more complicated than that so it’s going to take Jem’s special witchy magic and Georgie’s bravery in revealing her deepest darkest secret before the fairytale ending can even begin.

**Susie Day** grew up in a large family by the seaside in Wales and also in London. She studied English Literature at Oxford where she still lives. Susie is the author of eleven novels for children and teens.

## Praise for the *Pea* series:

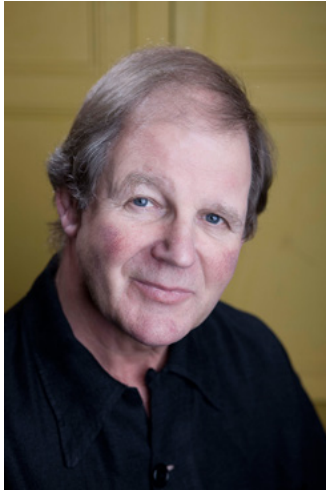
‘One of the best books I’ve read all year and a definite modern classic in the making.’ - *The Bookbag*

‘If you love *Ballet Shoes* or Hilary McKay’s *Casson Family* series, READ THIS BOOK! You will love it, I promise.’ - Stephanie Burgis, author of *A Most Improper Magick*

# [In the Mouth of the Wolf]

**Michael Morpurgo**

Ages 8 - 12



**UK:** Egmont - TBC

**UK Editor:** TBC

**US Rights:** DHA (VB)

**Primary Agent:** VB

**Translation Rights:** DHA

**Film/TV Rights:** Marc Berlin Associates

**Additional Info:**

Extent - approx 10,000 words

Illustrations - YES, by Barroux

Material Available - Unedited manuscript

**All Titles and Previous Publishers**

**Subagents:**

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

**A dramatic, fascinating and moving tale of Michael Morpurgo's uncle's involvement in the French Resistance**

*In the Mouth of the Wolf* is the inspirational, stirring and timely story of Francis Cammaerts, 1916-2006. Francis was a former conscientious objector who became one of the stars of the Special Operations Executive which staged guerrilla operations against the Nazi occupiers and Vichy regime during the Second World War. Francis was also Michael's uncle.

It is a mind-blowing story with an unforgettable cast of characters, Francis' family and friends: his beloved father, his brother Pieter who died when his plane crashed on returning from an air-raid over occupied France, his wife Nan, his childhood friend Harry who helped him set his pacifism aside and join the struggle and his awe-inspiring resistance family Auguste, Paul and Christine, who saved his life more than once.

Told with Michael's characteristic warmth *In the Mouth of the Wolf* is a tale of love, morals and extraordinary bravery in the face of fascism.

**Michael Morpurgo** is one of Britain's best-loved writers for children and has won many prizes including the Smarties Prize, The Writers Guild Award and the Blue Peter Book Award for his novel *Private Peaceful*, which has also had two successful runs as a play and has been adapted for film. He is the author of *War Horse*, which was adapted into a box office success by Steven Spielberg. From 2003-2005 he was the Children's Laureate.

Michael's latest novel, *Listen to the Moon*, a First World War novel about the sinking of the Lusitania, was published to critical acclaim and was shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book of the Year Award. All rights held by HarperCollins.

**Praise for Michael Morpurgo:**

'Michael Morpurgo has an impeccable track record in bringing historical events to life. In this charming new adventure, he marries the discovery of Richard III's ignominious burial place with Leicester City's phenomenal Premiership victory last season.' - *The Mail* (on *The Fox and the Ghost King*)

'A poignant and life-affirming story from a master.' - *Kirkus* (on *Listen to the Moon*)

'As ever Morpurgo's warmth and humanity permeate a story of courage, hope and loyalty. *Shadow* is a new classic and, in an age when 'asylum seeker' has become a taunt in many playgrounds, it should be in every school library.' - *Observer*

**Ages 8-12 6**



# [Gabriel and the Phantom Sleepers]

**Jenny Nimmo**

Age 8 - 12



**A magical new adventure, perfect for fans of Eva Ibbotson, *Inkheart* and the *Charlie Bone* series**

Gabriel Silk has been entrusted with the King's Cloak – a cloak that once belonged to his ancestor, The Red King. Gabriel travels to be with his uncle Jack and cousin Sadie, but during the journey the cloak is stolen. Soon afterwards, a mysterious hooded figure accosts him, leaving a note signed "A Sleeper".

But who are the mysterious Sleepers? And where on earth is the precious cloak? The Silks need help and call on Charlie Bone's uncle, Paton Yewbeam. Together they trace a path to the sinister Ludgarth Hall, a college for students of the paranormal.

But a battle awaits them, against the scheming sorceress Cecily, Sadie's ex-stepmother. Only the Sleeper called Elissa can help them now...

**UK:** Egmont UK - September 2017

**UK Editor:** Liz Jones

**US Rights:** DHA (CW)

**Primary Agent:** CW

**Translation Rights:** DHA

**Film/TV Rights:** DHA (GR)

**Additional Info:**

Extent - 256 pages

Illustrations - NO

Material Available - Unedited  
manuscript due end of March 2017

**All Titles and Previous Publishers**

**Subagents:**

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

**Jenny Nimmo** won the Nestle Smarties Prize with her second novel, *The Snow Spider*, which was successfully adapted for television. Some of her other titles include *The Stone Mouse*, which was Highly Commended for the Carnegie Medal and *Griffin's Castle* which was shortlisted for the Whitbread Award, the Carnegie Medal, the Nestle Smarties Prize and the WH Smith's Mind-Boggling Books Award. *Midnight For Charlie Bone* and its sequels have enjoyed much success, not only in the UK and abroad (over 20 languages sold) but especially in the USA where the series was a *New York Times* bestseller.

**Praise for Jenny Nimmo:**

'Dark, funny, crackling with magic.' - Artemis Cooper (on *Midnight for Charlie Bone*)

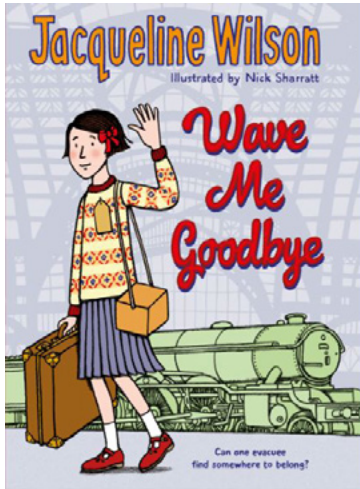
'A fast moving, dialogue-driven romp with plenty of cliff-hangers for those first hooked into reading by *Harry Potter*.' - *The Bookseller* (on *Midnight for Charlie Bone*)

'Lively, accomplished and dramatic and the writing has an engaging directness and warmth.' - *Daily Telegraph* (on *Charlie Bone and the Time Twister*)

# [Wave Me Goodbye]

Jacqueline Wilson

Age 8 -12



## A WW2 evacuee faces hardship and adventure

September, 1939. As the Second World War begins, ten-year-old Shirley is sent away on a train with her schoolmates. She doesn't know where she's going, or what's going to happen to her when she gets there. All she has been told is that she's going on 'a little holiday'.

Shirley is billeted in the country, with two boys from the East End of London, Kevin and Archie. Their experiences living in the strange, half-empty Red House, with the mysterious and reclusive Mrs Waverley, will change their lives for ever.

Award-winning, bestselling and beloved author Jacqueline Wilson turns to this period of history for the first time, in a beautiful, moving story of friendship and bravery against the backdrop of the worst conflict the world has ever known.

**Dame Jacqueline Wilson** is one of the UK's most popular authors, with over **40 million** books sold. *The Story of Tracy Beaker* was adapted for television and became a huge hit, running to five series and prompting two further spin-off series. *Hetty Feather*, the story of a Victorian foundling, is currently being shown by the BBC, as well as enjoying a very successful theatre adaptation that has toured the UK and had two West End runs.

**Nick Sharratt** has now illustrated close to 250 books. He's worked with authors including Julia Donaldson, Jeremy Strong, Michael Rosen, Giles Andreae, Kaye Umansky, Kes Gray and most notably Dame Jacqueline Wilson. He's also written around 40 of his own books. He was the official illustrator for World Book Day in 2006 and he has a fellowship from Hereford College of Art. He's also the proud recipient of a gold Blue Peter badge.

### Praise for Jacqueline Wilson:

'She should be prescribed for all cases of reading reluctance.'  
- *Independent on Sunday*

'Has a rare gift for writing lightly and amusingly about emotional issues.'  
- *The Bookseller*

**UK:** Doubleday - May 2017

**UK Editor:** Natalie Doherty

**US Rights:** DHA (CW)

**Primary Agent:** CW

**Translation Rights:** DHA

**Film/TV Rights:** DHA (GR)

### Additional Info:

Extent - TBC

Illustrations - YES (black and white line drawings by Nick Sharratt)

Material Available - Unedited manuscript, edited manuscript due April 2017

### All Titles and Previous Publishers

#### Subagents:

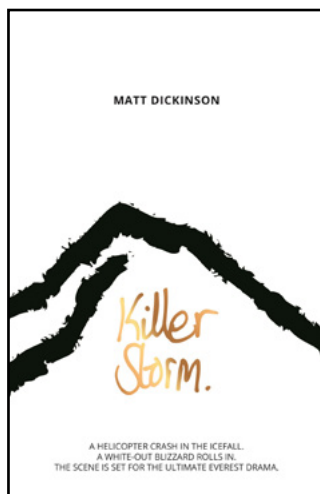
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

# [Killer Storm]

**Matt Dickinson**

Young Adult



**UK:** Vertebrate Publishing - August 2017

**UK Editor:** Jon Barton

**US Rights:** DHA (AW)

**Primary Agent:** AW

**Translation Rights:** DHA

**Film/TV Rights:** DHA (CI)

**Additional Info:**

Extent - TBC

Illustrations - YES (b/w chapter

heading illustrations by Sarah Darby)

Material Available - Unedited

manuscript due April 2017

**Rights Sold for *The Everest Files* trilogy:**

French - Les Editions du Mont Blanc

Japanese - Shogakukan

**Subagents:**

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

## **The final book in the *Everest Files* trilogy, set in a perilous near-future**

Nepal is a failed state – the government is no longer in control. Climate change has plunged the country into famine and it has become a refuge for warlords and paramilitary groups.

Ryan Hart is in Nepal with his Tibetan girlfriend Tashi, dreaming of summiting Mount Everest. He is amazed to receive a visit from three old friends, Alex Brennan, Shreeya and Kami, and they all set off for base camp together.

But when a terrorist attack at base camp shakes the mountaineering community to the core, Ryan and the others are held hostage. Their only hope is to escape and climb ever higher. Climb or be killed. The summit is waiting, but can they make it? Storm clouds are gathering.

**Matt Dickinson** is a writer and film-maker with a fascination for people who push the limits. He has filmed on the summit of Mount Everest and his bestselling account of that ascent, *The Death Zone*, was published by Random House. OUP published his adrenaline-fuelled YA series *Mortal Chaos*, and Vertebrate are publishing the *Everest Files* trilogy, as well as his new series for younger readers. Matt is in demand as a visiting author at schools and festivals around the UK and abroad.

### **Praise for Matt Dickinson:**

'A terrific book. It brings the mountain to life for young readers in a fresh and wonderful way. I urge all lovers of adventure to read it!' – Brian Blessed, actor and Everest climber.

'Matt Dickinson, who made a successful ascent of Everest's perilous North Face in 1996, has followed up his excellent *Mortal Chaos* YA trilogy with the first of what will be a trio of thrillers set in Nepal. *The Everest Files*, a gripping and touching story, is a fine start.' – *The Telegraph*

'A sharp, thoughtful and delightfully original thriller.'  
– *The Independent*, 50 Best Summer Reads (on *Mortal Chaos*)

# [Flight Of A Starling]

**Lisa Heathfield**

Young Adult



**UK:** Egmont - 29th June 2017

**UK Editor:** Ali Dougal

**US Rights:** Egmont

**Primary Agent:** VB

**Translation Rights:** DHA

**Film/TV Rights:** DHA (NL)

**Additional Info:**

Extent - approx 300 pages

Illustrations - NO

Material Available - Page proofs

**All Titles and Previous Publishers**

**Subagents:**

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

**The electrifying new novel from the author of critically acclaimed debut, *Seed***

Rita and Lo, sisters and best friends, have spent their lives on the wing – flying through the air in their trapeze act, never staying in one place for long. Behind the greasepaint and the glitter, they know that the true magic is the family they travel with.

Until Lo meets a boy. Suddenly, she wants nothing more than to stay still. And as secrets start to tear apart the close-knit circus community, how far will Lo go to keep her feet on the ground?

*Flight of a Starling* is a heartbreaking read with an important message.

**Lisa Heathfield** lives in Brighton with her husband and three sons. *Seed*, Lisa's debut novel, has been longlisted for the Branford Boase 2016 award and shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2016. *Paper Butterflies*, Lisa's second novel, was published in June 2016 and was very well received. *Flight of a Starling* is her third novel.

**Praise for Lisa Heathfield:**

'A wonderful debut novel with a shocking conclusion.'  
– *Guardian* (on *Seed*)

'An absorbing treatment of an ever interesting subject.'  
– *Kirkus* (on *Seed*)

'Utterly chilling and absorbing ... a really powerful début.'  
– *The Bookseller* (on *Seed*)

'We are obsessed with *Seed*.'  
– *YA Love Magazine*

'It broke my heart over and over. Destined to be one of THE most important books this year' – Melinda Salisbury, author of *The Sin Eater's Daughter* (on *Paper Butterflies*)

'This assured second novel...is an intense, shocking and unpredictable thriller.'  
– *The Bookseller* (on *Paper Butterflies*)

'Readers hoping for a sweet love story will be more than a little shocked by the swerve the plot takes, and *Paper Butterflies* is all the better for it.'  
– *The Irish Times* (on *Paper Butterflies*)

# [SUB-AGENTS]

**Bulgaria:** Nika Literary Agency

**China:** Andrew Nurnberg Associates / Bardon Chinese Media Agency

**Czech and Slovak:** Kristin Olson Literarni Agentura

**Germany:** Michael Meller Agency

**Hungary:** Katai & Bolza

**Indonesia:** Maxima Creative Agency

**Italy:** The Italian Literary Agency

**Japan:** The English Agency / Tuttle-Mori

**Korea:** Eric Yang Agency

**Poland:** Anna Jarota Agency

**Romania:** Simona Kessler Agency

**Russia:** Van Lear Agency

**Serbia:** Plima Literary Agency

**Thailand:** The Silkroad Agency

**Turkey:** Akcali Copyright

**US:** Adams Literary



Joe Berger

Roald Dahl

Susie Day

Matt Dickinson

Lisa Heathfield

Alexander McCall Smith

Michael Morpurgo

Jenny Nimmo

Jacqueline Wilson