

Emily Sparkes And The Friendship Fiasco Book 1

The New York Times bestselling author of *The Widow* returns with a brand new novel of twisting psychological suspense about every parent's worst nightmare... When two eighteen-year-old girls go missing in Thailand, their families are thrust into the international spotlight: desperate, bereft, and frantic with worry. What were the girls up to before they disappeared? Journalist Kate Waters always does everything she can to be first to the story, first with the exclusive, first to discover the truth—and this time is no exception. But she can't help but think of her own son, whom she hasn't seen in two years, since he left home to go travelling. As the case of the missing girls unfolds, they will all find that even this far away, danger can lie closer to home than you might think...

Set sail with the funniest pirate on the seven seas in this hilarious adventure for readers of 7+ with brilliant pictures throughout from *ALIENS LOVE UNDERPANTS* illustrator Ben Cort.

Emily Sparkes might have found herself a new best friend and avoided humiliation at the hands of the *GROSSEST* boy in the universe, but now her creativity has landed her in a whole new world of trouble . . . Emily has absolutely accidentally entered her mother into a competition to find the nation's Mum in a Million. So when Mrs Sparkes is shortlisted, Emily is more shocked than anyone! Desperate not to be publicly humiliated on TV, she has to come up with a plan for a mum makeover. Because her eco-warrior, allotment-loving, generally *HORRENDOUSLY* embarrassing parent can't make her star appearance in a grandad-cap and wellies - can she? 'I LOVE it . . . it's lots of fun and a really cool read!' - Cathy Cassidy, bestselling author of *The Chocolate Box Girls* series

'Just call me Bee. Please, please call me that. If you call me Beatrix Daffodil Tulip Chrysanthemum Rose Edwards I shan't answer you. I am not being rude or unfriendly, or insolent as Mrs Dixon my teacher calls me. I just don't like my name. Well, would you?' Bee stumbles through life in her stripy socks with her head in the clouds, doing her very best to keep out of the way of her bickering parents and avoid bendy tap dancing Crystal Kelly - who makes her life a misery. But when Crystal double-dares her to volunteer for a sponsored swim in honour of her great grandmother Beatrix's memory, Bee can't back down. Even though she is terrified of water and cannot swim! Then new boy Moon-Star gallops to Bee's rescue on his horse and takes her to meet Old Alice, who lives in a beautiful painted wagon. As Bee enters this new world, her life is changed for ever. Finally she has an ally. Down by the promise tree the new friends make a pact - Moon Star will teach Bee to swim if Bee will teach him to read. They spit on their hands and shake on their vow and a beautiful friendship begins. 'Fans of Jacqueline Wilson and Elen Caldecott will like this real-world drama ... Warm and dreamy with just the right amount of quirk for young readers to identify with if they feel like outsiders.' Booktrust

Meet Mackenzie Blue, aka Zee She has it all—smarts, talent, humor, and style. . . . Is it enough to survive middle school? Countdown to a 7th Grade Meltdown 1. Your BFF moves away. 2. Someone steals your diary and reveals your deepest secrets—to the entire class. 3. You have one chance to become a rock star and one chance to totally blow it. Guess what!? All three happened to me! School's a disaster already. Don't get me wrong—I love Brookdale Academy and I have a fabulous crew of friends. (At least, I think I do.) But, if I'm going to survive, I need all the help I can get!

When Pea Llewellyn's dizzy but dazzling single mum becomes Marina Cove, author of the bestselling Mermaid Girls books, everything changes. It's time to leave their tiny flat in Tenby for a proper house in London, and a whole new life. Pea likes the red front door, and the attic bedroom all to herself. She even likes her hideous new school uniform, in a masochistic Malory Towers sort of way. But there's an empty chair beside her in every lesson, and no one seems to want to fill it. In the absence of volunteers, Pea is going to have to acquire herself a best friend . . .

Finding a girl squad that's as unique and special as you are starts with finding YOURSELF. Friendships are SO difficult to get right - and when rumours swirl or dramas unfold, your confidence vanishes and the worries start to take over. In this essential guide to navigating friendships you'll meet Poppy, who's juggling all sorts of dilemmas at school. But whether it's coping with feeling left out, handling bullies or embracing her true weird and wonderful self, friendship expert Dr Angharad Rudkin and author Ruth Fitzgerald are there to help with positive, practical advice. As you follow Poppy's trials and tribulations, you'll discover the secrets to finding your own ultimate girl squad - one which loves you for YOU.

A stunning reissue of this classic picture book. When the Queen steals Emily Brown's favourite toy and erstwhile companion, a toy rabbit called Stanley, Emily sets out to get him back and teach that naughty queen a valuable lesson! Winner of the 2006 Nestle Gold Award, chosen for the Richard & Judy Christmas book party, a Bookaboo Book Club book as seen on CITV and read by Amanda Holden. 'Charming, funny and gets my vote as the best picture book of the year.' - Financial Times Written by Cressida Cowell, the bestselling author of the How to Train Your Dragon series. <http://www.cressidacowell.co.uk/> Illustrated by award winning Neal Layton, creator of Stanley's Stick.

<http://www.neallayton.co.uk/>

Ivy Pocket is a twelve-year-old maid of no importance, with a very lofty opinion of herself. Dumped in Paris by the Countess Carbunkle, who would rather run away to South America than continue in Ivy's companionship, our young heroine (of sorts) finds herself with no money and no home to go to ... until she is summoned to the bedside of the dying Duchess of Trinity. For the princely sum of £500 (enough to buy a carriage, and possibly a monkey), Ivy agrees to courier the Duchess's most precious possession – the Clock Diamond – to England, and to put it around the neck of the revolting Matilda Butterfield on her twelfth birthday. It's not long before Ivy finds herself at the heart of a conspiracy involving mischief, mayhem and murder.

Illustrated in humorous gothic detail by John Kelly, Anyone But Ivy Pocket is just the beginning

of one girl's deadly comic journey to discover who she really is ...

Discover your unique imprint for work that makes you come alive, fills you with meaning, joy, purpose, and possibility, then spend the rest of your life doing it. We're all born with a certain "imprint" for work that makes us come alive. This is your "Sparketype®," your DNA-level driver of work that lets you know, deep down, you're doing what you're here to do. Work that motivates you, fills you with purpose and, fully-expressed in a healthy way, becomes a main-line to meaning, flow, performance, and joy. Put another way, work that "sparks" you. Drawing upon years of research, experimentation, more than 25-million data-points generated by over half-a-million people, hundreds of deep-dive conversations with luminaries from science to art to industry and wellbeing. Award-winning author, serial wellness-industry founder, and host of the top-ranked Good Life Project®, Jonathan Fields, and his team at Spark Endeavors, developed the Sparketype imprints and methodology that is the basis of this book. SPARKED takes you deep into the world of the Sparketypes, revealing an entirely new depth of insights about what makes you come alive in work life, along with what empties you out and trips you up, so you can avoid those life-drains. You'll discover tons of case studies, stories, and real-world applications, creating a comprehensive guide to help you discover what you are meant to do and how to get started. This book will help you: Discover, with far more depth, what sparks you, what drains you, where you stumble and come alive, so you can reclaim a sense of direction, control, and purpose; Understand the "real" reasons certain experiences, jobs, and roles leave you empty and know how to make things better, without having to endure big disruptive changes; Learn from real-world, relatable stories, case-studies, and data-driven insights Identify the action steps to begin immediately transforming the way you work and live. Jack Mattingly is a genius. He has an IQ of 170. He speaks fluent Mandarin and Latin. And he can calculate the square root of 1,673,549 in his head. But when Jack's parents' car is hijacked, with him inside it, for once he's as clueless as the rest of us. The car-jacker doesn't know Jack's in the car - yet. But it's only a matter of time before he's discovered. And then anything could happen. Only one thing's for sure: Jack's in for the thrill-ride of his life . . . A high-octane adventure from the winner of the Blue Peter Book of the Year Award.

From the authors of *Cake* and *Norman the Slug* comes another wacky, laugh-out-loud picture book about a very special dance we have all had to do at some point in our lives! Alan the Bear has a problem. A big one. He really, really needs to wee. But things keep on getting in his way. With the help of his friends and a special dance, will Alan make it to the toilet in time?

The Chipmunks and The Chipettes are enjoying the time of their lives on a spectacular cruise ship until . . . 'munk overboard! When the gang follows Alvin to the shore of a deserted island far away from their travel accommodations, they wonder: will Dave come to their rescue—or are they washed up for good?

A hilarious illustrated book about a crime-solving heroine who enters a boarding school filled with very peculiar girls, from Bransford Boase Award-winner Dave Shelton.

A beautiful and heartbreaking novel from an award-winning author about a girl who gets swept up into an adventure involving forgotten toys, perfect for fans of Lauren Wolk and Kelly Barnhill. "A delicate, funny, poignant exploration of grief, love and memory that has the welcoming warmth of an instant classic."--The Guardian Emily and her sister, Holly, were as close as sisters could be. They did everything together. But Holly died three months ago, and Emily's world is shattered. Amid a sea of changes--her best friend is acting distant, she's just started at a new school, and she's been cast as the lead in the school play--Emily is surprised to find that she misses Holly's teddy bear, Bluey, almost as much as she misses Holly herself. But Bluey was buried with Holly, and there's no getting either of them back. Then one night, Emily dreams of talking toys, who tell her they have come from the toy world with a message from Bluey. Emily is convinced she can be reunited with him. But there's something strange about the barrier between the toy world and the real world. Not just strange, but

dangerous--magic is spilling out, and it's wreaking havoc on Emily's world. Now she must decide whether finding Bluey is worth risking the lives of those she loves. "Deeply moving and highly imaginative."--The Daily Mail "Written from the heart and can't fail to make yours sing."--The Times, Book of the Week "One of the wittiest books of the year."--The Sunday Times "Suffused with longing and dappled with humor, this novel explores the limits of grief and the lasting power of storytelling."--Wall Street Journal "From whimsical comicality to impending danger...a standalone title, in which the topic of loss is dealt with deftly. For readers willing to let their imagination soar, this fantasy may be just what they are looking for, especially if they have experienced grief."--School Library Journal "An imaginative, magical story ideal for kids experiencing loss."--Kirkus Reviews "Wise in the ways of loss as Emily discovers that the route through grief lies not in escaping to Smockeroon but in engaging with the hard world, in the passage of time, in friendship, memory, and, above all, storytelling."--The Horn Book, Starred Review "A refreshing take on the classic theme of toys coming to life, with the residents of Smockeroon amusingly sassy and self involved. There is still plenty of warmth...while the magical elements cushion the heftier themes...A pleasing blend of sentiment and humor."--Bulletin "Saunders combines the hard reality of loss and the soft comfort of fantasy surprisingly well, offering unexpected humor in Smockeroon as well as sharp insights into human characters."--Booklist

Emily is excited about fetching the special coaches for Gordon's presentation, but devious Diesel is up to his old tricks! Will Emily find the coaches in time?

Maddy is feeling really lonely now that her friends have gone away for the holidays and she is stuck at home with a broken leg in plaster! But then fluffy black-and-white kitten Flame magically appears and soon some very special friends come into both their lives . . .

A brilliant school story exploring themes of bullying and getting along, by award-winning author and former Children's Laureate Jacqueline Wilson. Perfect for children learning to read. Mark is the class bully. He loves scaring everyone. But has he met his match with Kate and the Monster Eyeballs? The Reading Ladder series helps children to enjoy learning to read. It features well-loved authors, classic characters and favourite topics, so that children will find something to excite and engage them in every title they pick up. It's the first step towards a lasting love of reading. Level 2 Reading Ladder titles are perfect for readers who are growing in confidence and are beginning to enjoy longer stories. * Clear type * Up to 8 lines per page * Bright, appealing pictures for added interest * A variety of sentence structures * A wider range of vocabulary * Strong themes and characters to discuss All Reading Ladder titles are developed with a leading literacy consultant, making them perfect for use in schools and for parents keen to support their children's reading. Book band: Orange

Join Emily Sparkes for laugh-out-loud observations about life, parents and how to handle the grossest boys in the universe! Perfect for fans of Cathy Cassidy and Dork Diaries. The first Emily book has been shortlisted for the Scholastic Laugh Out Loud Book Award (The Lollies). 'Lots of fun and a really cool read!' - Cathy Cassidy Unfortunately for Emily Sparkes, life has a way of humiliating her at every turn. Normally through the medium of her mother. But now, probably because he felt left out, her dad has decided to be the ULTIMATE embarrassment. Discovering his old record collection in the attic, he somehow

gets the idea that he'd make a great DJ, and volunteers his services for the school disco. He even thinks he might have a go at rapping for everyone's entertainment. Emily has two options: 1) Go and live in an igloo in the Arctic where nobody can find her 2) Raise enough money at the school fete to pay for a real DJ instead. Neither is straightforward. But with Chloe Clarke and Zuzanna to help, surely nothing can go wrong?

“A fascinating epic tale.”—The New York Post An Afghan American woman returns to Kabul to learn the truth about her family and the tragedy that destroyed their lives in this brilliant and compelling novel from the bestselling author of *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*, *The House Without Windows*, and *When the Moon Is Low*. Kabul, 1978: The daughter of a prominent family, Sitara Zamani lives a privileged life in Afghanistan's thriving cosmopolitan capital. The 1970s are a time of remarkable promise under the leadership of people like Sardar Daoud, Afghanistan's progressive president, and Sitara's beloved father, his right-hand man. But the ten-year-old Sitara's world is shattered when communists stage a coup, assassinating the president and Sitara's entire family. Only she survives. Smuggled out of the palace by a guard named Shair, Sitara finds her way to the home of a female American diplomat, who adopts her and raises her in America. In her new country, Sitara takes on a new name—Aryana Shepherd—and throws herself into her studies, eventually becoming a renowned surgeon. A survivor, Aryana has refused to look back, choosing instead to bury the trauma and devastating loss she endured. New York, 2008: Forty years after that fatal night in Kabul, Aryana's world is rocked again when an elderly patient appears in her examination room—a man she never expected to see again. It is Shair, the soldier who saved her, yet may have murdered her entire family. Seeing him awakens Aryana's fury and desire for answers—and, perhaps, revenge. Realizing that she cannot go on without finding the truth, Aryana embarks on a quest that takes her back to Kabul—a battleground between the corrupt government and the fundamentalist Taliban—and through shadowy memories of the world she loved and lost. Bold, illuminating, heartbreaking, yet hopeful, *Sparks Like Stars* is a story of home—of America and Afghanistan, tragedy and survival, reinvention and remembrance, told in Nadia Hashimi's singular voice.

A New York Times Notable Book and the March 2001 selection of Oprah's Book Club®! *Icy Sparks* is the sad, funny and transcendent tale of a young girl growing up in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky during the 1950's. Gwyn Hyman Rubio's beautifully written first novel revolves around *Icy Sparks*, an unforgettable heroine in the tradition of Scout in *To Kill a Mockingbird* or Will Treed in *Cold Sassy Tree*. At the age of ten, *Icy*, a bright, curious child orphaned as a baby but raised by adoring grandparents, begins to have strange experiences. Try as she might, her "secrets"—verbal croaks, groans, and physical spasms—keep afflicting her. As an adult, she will find out she has Tourette's Syndrome, a rare neurological disorder, but for years her behavior is the source of mystery, confusion, and deep humiliation. Narrated by a grown up *Icy*, the

book chronicles a difficult, but ultimately hilarious and heartwarming journey, from her first spasms to her self-acceptance as a young woman. Curious about life beyond the hills, talented, and energetic, Icy learns to cut through all barriers—physical, mental, and spiritual—in order to find community and acceptance. Along her journey, Icy faces the jeers of her classmates as well as the malevolence of her often-ignorant teachers—including Mrs. Stilton, one of the most evil fourth grade teachers ever created by a writer. Called willful by her teachers and "Frog Child" by her schoolmates, she is exiled from the schoolroom and sent to a children's asylum where it is hoped that the roots of her mysterious behavior can be discovered. Here Icy learns about difference—her own and those who are even more scarred than she. Yet, it isn't until Icy returns home that she really begins to flower, especially through her friendship with the eccentric and obese Miss Emily, who knows first-hand how it feels to be an outcast in this tightly knit Appalachian community. Under Miss Emily's tutelage, Icy learns about life's struggles and rewards, survives her first comical and heartbreaking misadventure with romance, discovers the healing power of her voice when she sings, and ultimately—takes her first steps back into the world. Gwyn Hyman Rubio's *Icy Sparks* is a fresh, original, and completely redeeming novel about learning to overcome others' ignorance and celebrate the differences that make each of us unique.

Emily Sparkes thinks having your best friend move to Wales at the same time as your parents decide to have a new baby is probably more trauma than an eleven-year-old should have to cope with. Then she finds she has a whole lot more to worry about when her teacher chooses her to partner revolting Gross-Out Gavin the school trip. Emily is determined to get a different partner and when glamorous new girl Chloe Clarke turns up it seems her prayers might be answered. Unfortunately, everyone has gone Chloe Clarke mad, and Emily finds her 'sworn enemy' Zuzanna has the same idea. Getting and keeping Chloe as a friend proves a lot more troublesome than Emily anticipated and leads her into a whole new set of disasters ...

Dax Jones will not be tamed. The Children of Limitless Ability can do all sorts of amazing things. Terrifying things too. Some can move things with their minds. Some can make themselves vanish. Dax Jones can change his form; can hurtle through the sky at 200km an hour, or swim underwater for minutes on end. But all is not well. Fenton Lodge, the school and home the COLA kids had grown to love over the past few years, is being turned into a prison. The new prime minister has set up a crack force of experts to manage, contain and use the COLA resource in the best interests of decent hardworking British people. And . . . if necessary . . . to shut it all down. Permanently. With all communication scrutinized, Dax's only option is to write to his spoilt little sister, Alice. Even she might notice something is amiss, if she reads his letters properly. And Alice, for all her annoying shallowness, does notice. And what she does about it is extraordinary. But then, she is the half-sister of Dax Jones.

Megan is afraid of the dark, and sometimes she just can't get to sleep. But one special night, a star falls from the sky and shows Megan how magical the nighttime can be. But what will happen when Megan's star needs to go back home?

Emily Sparkes thinks having your best friend move to Wales at the same time as your parents decide to have a new baby is probably more trauma than anyone should have to cope with. But things go from bad to worse when she's paired with revolting Gross-Out Gavin for the school trip! Emily is determined to escape him, and when glamorous new girl Chloe Clarke turns up it seems her prayers might be answered. Unfortunately, everyone has gone Chloe Clarke mad and Emily finds her 'sworn enemy' Zuzanna has had the same idea. Getting and keeping Chloe as a friend proves a lot more troublesome than Emily anticipated and leads her into a whole new set of disasters . . . In this exciting finale Dax and his friends are moved to the country in a bid to keep their identities a secret, but are the special forces who are transporting them their allies, or are the Children of Limitless Ability being used as pawns in a much bigger scheme? Once again it is Dax who's at the centre of things - it's him they want most of all. But who are 'they'? And who's the brains behind this master plan? Dax must save his friends from being sold as commodities to the highest bidder, and in the process find out who his mother really is and how he and his friends ended up with such amazing powers.

With a lightning-fast pace, unforgettable characters, and gut-wrenching action, Iris Johansen's *Dark Summer* is compelling terrain for this master storyteller. It begins with a single shot. Devon Brady is a devoted veterinarian working in a makeshift hospital on a remote search and rescue mission. When a man arrives with his wounded black Lab, Ned, she has no idea that she is about to be plunged into a whirlwind of terror and destruction. Jude Marrock is out for revenge and has no choice but to involve Devon in a high-stakes cat-and-mouse game with an escalating body count. She doesn't trust him one bit, but when the shots start flying and friends start falling, she finds herself with nowhere else to run. And there are innocent lives, both human and animal, at stake, including Ned and his mysterious pack. Is Jude her salvation or her damnation? Are the secrets he's protecting worth killing for . . . or dying for?

View more details of this book at www.walkerbooks.com.au

Join Emily Sparkes for laugh-out-loud observations about life, parents and how to handle the grossest boys in the universe! Perfect for fans of Cathy Cassidy and *Dork Diaries*, the first Emily book has been shortlisted for the Scholastic Laugh Out Loud Book Award (The Lollies). 'Lots of fun and a really cool read!' - Cathy Cassidy It's school play season and Emily Sparkes has landed herself a starring role . . . not. In fact, it's the most humiliating role in the history of all time - even worse than the time she was cast as a duck. (Quack, quack.) Emily's friends Chloe (pretty much a Hollywood-star-to-be, daahling) and Zuzanna are very excited. Partly because, for the first time ever, they'll be performing in a gala at the local theatre like proper actors! But things take a turn for the worse when they meet the other school who'll be performing. The girls from Mag Hall have a history with Chloe that seems a bit mysterious. It's going to take some real Emily Sparkes creativity to get to the bottom of things! With freshness, humor, compassion, first-time author Emily Ryan provides an "unnamed, unmarried, and unshakeable" scriptural role model for single women.

Drawing biblical principles from the example of Jephthah's daughter, whose story is told in Judges 11, the author give singles women a book that is not about dating, preparing for marriage, or how to be single. Rather than throwing all of their energies in finding a husband, Emily encourages women to discover who they are in Christ, following the lead of a "single woman who teaches us how to be godly."

Fans of *Serafina and the Black Cloak* and *The Night Gardener* will devour *Shadow Weaver*, the first in a dark middle-grade fantasy duology that's filled with shadows, danger, magic, and has the feel of a new classic. Emmeline's gift of controlling shadows has isolated her from the rest of the world, but she's grown to be content, hidden away in her mansion with Dar, her own shadow, as her only company. Disaster strikes when a noble family visits their home and offers to take Emmeline away and cure her of magic. Desperate not to lose her shadows, she turns to Dar who proposes a deal: Dar will change the noble's mind, if Emmeline will help her become flesh as she once was. Emmeline agrees but the next morning the man in charge is in a coma and all that the witness saw was a long shadow with no one nearby to cast it. Scared to face punishment, Emmeline and Dar run away. With the noble's guards on her trail, Emmeline's only hope of clearing her name is to escape capture and perform the ritual that will set Dar free. But Emmeline's not sure she can trust Dar anymore, and it's hard to keep secrets from someone who can never leave your side.

A former love makes a lasting impression in a warm and sexy romance from Nancy Herkness. Kyra Dixon, a blue-collar girl from the boondocks, is dedicated to her job at a community center that matches underprivileged kids with rescue dogs. When she runs into Will Chase--Connecticut blue blood, billionaire CEO, and her old college crush--she's surprised that he asks a favor from her: to be his date for his uptight family's dreaded annual garden party. If his parents don't approve, all the better. Kyra's not about to say no. It'll give her a chance to be oh-so-close to her unrequited love. What begins as a little fling turns so mad hot, so fast, that Kyra finds herself falling all over again for a fantasy that won't come true. How can it? She doesn't belong in Will's world. She doesn't want to. But Will does want to belong in hers. All he has to do now is prove it. Will is prepared to give up whatever is necessary to get what his heart most desires.

Welcome to Darmid, where magic is a sin, fairy tales are contraband, and the people live in fear of the Sorcerers on the other side of the mountains. Rowan Greenwood has everything she's supposed to want from life—a good family, a bright future, and a proposal from a handsome and wealthy magic hunter. She knows she should be content with what she has. If only she could banish the idea that there's more to life than marriage and children, or let go of the fascination with magic she's been forced to suppress since childhood. When Rowan unknowingly saves the life of one of her people's most feared enemies, that simple act of compassion rips her from her sheltered life and throws her into a world of magic that's more beautiful, more seductive, and more dangerous than she ever could have imagined. Rowan might get everything she ever dreamed of—that is, if the one thing she's always wanted doesn't kill her first. (Mature YA Fantasy)

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A whimsical assortment of some of the most bizarre and outlandish names discovered by the author on legal certificates, in phone books and in censuses from past centuries includes entries ranging from Rick O'Shea and Sally Forth to Fanny Humper and Elle Fants. 20,000 first printing.

This comprehensive study by leading scholars in an important new field—the history of letters and letter writing—is essential reading for anyone interested in nineteenth-century American politics, history or literature. Because of its mass literacy, population mobility, and extensive postal system, nineteenth-century America is a crucial site for the exploration of letters and their meanings, whether they be written by presidents and statesmen, scientists and philosophers, novelists and poets, feminists and reformers, immigrants, Native Americans, or African Americans. This book breaks new ground by mapping the voluminous correspondence of these figures and other important American writers and thinkers. Rather than treating the letter as a spontaneous private document, the contributors understand it as a self-conscious artefact, circulating between friends and strangers and across multiple genres in ways that both make and break social ties.

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