Held

by Edeet Ravel

What happens when the source of your worst fears becomes the object of your affection?

Seventeen-year-old Chloe’s summer vacation in Greece comes to an abrupt end when she is suddenly bound, gagged, and whisked away to an unidentified location. Waking up from a drug-induced sleep, she finds herself in a squalid warehouse. Chloe can only imagine the worst.

After several days of utter despair, Chloe is relieved when her hostage-taker appears. His revelation that she is being held ransom for a prisoner exchange, however, does little to allay her fears.

Although cold and distant, her hostage-taker visits frequently, often bringing gifts. Before long, Chloe begins to have feelings for him that take her by surprise. Instead of fearing him, she now fantasizes about a life together. And is it her imagination, or does her captor share those feelings?

This powerful psychological thriller, written by a renowned novelist, leaves readers wondering at every suspenseful turn: Is Chloe experiencing Stockholm Syndrome?

EDEET RAVEL’s bestselling novels for adults include Ten Thousand Lovers and Your Sad Eyes and Unforgettable Mouth. She lives in Guelph, Ontario. Visit her website at www.edeet.com.
Dead Time / Shelter

by Christy-Ann Conlin / Jen Sookfong Lee

Two vulnerable girls go to extremes for love.

In Dead Time, Isabella is waiting to be sentenced for a horrifically violent crime. Lulu, Sergei’s ex-girlfriend, is dead. Even her name makes Isabella want to poke somebody in the eye with a stick. True, Isabella was jealous, so she asked Sergei to prove his love. How could she have known how far it would go?

Abby, the narrator in Shelter, is only in high school, but she feels responsible for holding her family together. Her father works two jobs and is rarely home. Her mom, angry about their financial woes, escapes to nightclubs. When Abby meets Sean, an attractive, sensitive guy who lets her confide in him, she falls in love fast, and hard. He may be a little older; still, Abby wants to give herself to him. But Abby’s first time is not at all what she imagined.

Christy-Ann Conlin has written novels and essays for adults, and has worked as a storytelling apprentice in Northern Ireland. She lives in Halifax, NS.

Jen Sookfong Lee was born and raised in Vancouver’s East Side, where she now lives with her husband. Her poetry, fiction, and articles have appeared in a variety of magazines.
A Sword in Her Hand

by Jean-Claude van Rijckeghem and Pat van Beirs
translated by John Nieuwenhuizen

of related interest:

A Sword in Her Hand

by Jean-Claude van Rijckeghem and Pat van Beirs
translated by John Nieuwenhuizen

A feast of a medieval adventure with a thoroughly modern heroine.

As the murmur of prayers fills the icy room, mother and baby seem doomed. When the newborn finally struggles into the world, the Count of Flanders flees in a rage. The child is not the expected male heir, but a girl.

Growing up under the disapproving eye of her heartless father, strong-willed Marguerite is forced to compete in the fierce and violent male world of the Middle Ages. When her father demands that she wed a man she detests, the young countess uses all her cunning to stop the marriage. The only thing she cannot conquer is the plague, which marches across the land killing thousands, including the man she loves.

Based on a real character, this colorful story is told with sharp humor and filled with dramatic intensity.

Jean-Claude van Rijckeghem and Pat van Beirs together have written young adult novels, scripts for a historical graphic novel series, and a Cannes Film Festival prize-winning screenplay.

John Nieuwenhuizen, an award-winning translator of Dutch and Flemish literature, has won the Mildred Batchelder Award for translation from the American Library Association.
Chanda’s Secrets

by Allan Stratton

An unforgettable novel about family, loyalty, and survival in sub-Saharan Africa.

Chanda’s Secrets was first published in 2004 to extraordinary international acclaim. Among its many distinctions are the Michael L. Printz Honor Book for Excellence in YA Literature, finalist for the Prix Sorcières in France, and an ALA Best Book for Young Adults. Now a major motion picture under the name Life, Above All, it was honored with the prestigious Prix François Chalais at the Cannes Film Festival. To coincide with the film’s North American release by Sony Classics, the cover of this new edition features a poignant still shot from the movie.

“No-one can read Chanda’s Secrets and remain untouched …”
—Stephen Lewis, UN special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa

“The message about overcoming ignorance and shame and confronting the facts is ever-present, but the tense story and the realistic characters … will keep kids reading and break the silence about the tragedy.”
—Booklist, ★★★☆☆ starred review

ALLAN STRATTON is an internationally recognized playwright and novelist. In preparation to write Chanda’s Secrets, he traveled to South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Botswana. He lives in Toronto.
50 Questions series
50 Poisonous Questions
A Book With Bite

by Tanya Lloyd Kyi
illustrated by Ross Kinnaird

Warning: do not kiss golden dart frogs!

It’s a poisonous world out there. Toxic herbicides, noxious fumes—poisons in one form or another are all around us. Poisons can be the death of us, but they can also cure disease.

The second book in Annick’s 50 Questions series provides answers to many intriguing questions such as “Should you pee on a jelly-fish sting?” (No, douse it with vinegar!); or “Can Gila monsters cure diabetes?” (Yes, a drug used to treat the disease comes from the Gila monster’s venom.)

So if you want to avoid paint that kills or leaves that give you blisters, come explore the fascinating and dangerous world of poisons. And don’t be afraid! The killer cartoons and dead-funny text are venom-free.

TANYA LLOYD KYI is the author of both fiction and non-fiction books for young readers, including The Blue Jean Book and 50 Burning Questions: A Sizzling History of Fire. She lives in Vancouver, BC.

ROSS KINNAIRD is an illustrator who has worked in London, Sydney, and Hong Kong. He currently lives in Auckland, New Zealand.

“A light-hearted and information-packed look at a fascinating subject.” —Quill & Quire

See page 24.
Spy, Spy Again
True Tales of Failed Espionage

by Tina Holdcroft

Even spies can have a bad day.

History teaches us that countries devote tremendous amounts of time and resources to spying on their perceived enemies. But even the most carefully calculated top secret plans don’t always succeed. In fact, they are often foiled by something impossible to have predicted. For example:

- Allied paratroops accidentally land at an outdoor movie for German troops
- In Ancient India, hungry ants reveal a secret spy tunnel
- A Cold War spy cat gets squashed by a car.

The 18 stories in Spy, Spy Again take readers on a bumpy ride through history, exposing tales of espionage botched by bad luck and rotten timing, miscommunication, incompetence, hubris, and betrayal.

Whether they’re in Ancient China or Ancient India, during the Cold War or World War II, these stories of suspense and intrigue will captivate readers. Tina Holdcroft’s incisive graphic narrative and delightfully witty illustrations make these accounts of failed spies come to life.

Tina Holdcroft’s work for Annick Press includes the three-book series, Hidden!, and Aztec in the Kids @ the Crossroads series. Tina lives in Toronto, ON.
We must train spies and set EUROPE ALIVE.

PARABLOOPERS

Sending troops into Germany-- what a Attribution.

1944-1945

GETTING SPYs INTO GERMANY-- how hard could that be?

WELL, FOR STARTERS, MAKING THE GESTAPO AND BERLIN’S DECENT POLICE WANT TO GO IS LIGHTLY.

This [graphics with various maps and characters]

NORMALLY THE OSS PREPARED THEIR SPIES

HIS BUTCHER CAME FROM GERMANY

[Cartoon characters in different settings]
Late in the next century, the human race is on the verge of extinction. A mysterious virus has resulted in no births in almost a generation. Despite the impending doom, three urban teenagers try to live their lives with hope.

Mia strives to preserve humanity’s compassion through her art and volunteer work with the “oldies.” Tech-savvy Xian spends her time tinkering with the robots she’s sure will inherit the earth. Jesse, the son of geneticists, is convinced the future lies with cloning, but society is reeling from the grotesque failures of previous attempts. When the friends stumble upon the 60-year-old mystery of a missing girl, it leads them to the world’s only successful clone—and the key to saving our species.

Artist Fiona Smyth’s gripping graphic novel depicts a future as visually detailed as it is emotionally rich. *The Never Weres* will keep readers breathless to the final page.

**Fiona Smyth** is a Toronto-based illustrator whose work has been published across North America. *The Never Weres* is her first graphic novel for young readers. Visit her website at www.fionasmyth.com.
HERE IS OUR VAST METROPOLIS AS IT WAS THEN 20 MILLION AND SHRINKING.

MIA WALKS HOME THROUGH THE BUSY STREETS. SHE SEES CRIMINALS MURDER THE YOUNGEST PERSON AROUND.

ASSASSINATES HERSELF TO SAVE THE INNOCENT FROM HUMAN CLONING.

WELCOME, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! THIS WEEK SAYS YOU MUST BE WELCOMING THIS MORNING!

I WAS AT THE NAGGERS LAST NIGHT TALKING THE TIME FISHING, AS I DO EVERY EVENING. WHEN I FELT WHAT APPEARED TO BE A HUMAN DECEIT AND YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN! I FELL THE NAME ON THE TRACK, BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK? THE NAME WAS AMELIA BROWN.

WITH HER OLD TALK, THERE'S A NAME THAT SHOULD BING BELL. IT WAS 60 YEARS AGO WHEN THE CITY WAS DIVIDED BY THE MURDER OF A MISSING GIRL. A TEENAGER ABOUT 15 YEARS-OLD. SHES DISAPPEARED FROM THE WESTERN HILLS. NEVER HEARD OF AMELIA YET.

THERE WAS NO TRACE OF HER, AND NO ONE EVER FIGURED OUT THE MYSTERY OF AMELIA.
Did you know that aloe vera—now found in countless products, including sunscreens and soaps—first grew in Africa? And that oil from the African oil palm tree is used to make cosmetics? Or that the marimba, better known to us as the xylophone, is believed to have originated in Mali 700 years ago?

With descriptive photos and information-packed text divided into sections including agriculture, food, and medicine, this fourth book in Annick’s successful We Thought of It series takes readers on a fascinating journey across the world’s second largest continent to discover how some aspects of its culture have spread around the globe.

**BATHSEBA OPINI**, Ph.D., was born and raised in Kenya. She is a teacher at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto.

**RICHARD B. LEE**, Ph.D., is an internationally known anthropologist and Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Toronto.

“A well-focused introduction to the history of technological innovation in China.” —Booklist Online

See page 30.
Louis, the Tiger Who Came From the Sea

by Michal Kozlowski
illustrated by Sholto Walker

What do you do with a tiger named Louis who came from the sea?

One morning, Ali and Ollie are woken by a beastly snore. They look out the window and what do they see? Is it a giant carrot? A pumpkin? No, it’s a tiger, soaking wet and fast asleep. They decide his name must be Louis and he must have come from the sea.

Ali and Ollie venture outside with milk and cereal. When Mother and Father join them, Louis wakes with a mighty roar. Everyone scampers inside—followed by Louis who pads in through the open door. While the family huddles upstairs, Louis sleeps by the fire and luxuriates in the bathtub. Before long, Ali and Ollie come up with an ingenious plan to help Louis return to the sea.

Readers will be captivated by Walker’s humorous illustrations, which heighten the charm and originality of Kozlowski’s spirited tale.

**Michal Kozlowski** was born in Poland, and lives in Vancouver, BC. His work regularly appears in literary magazines and he is on *Geist* magazine’s editorial board.

**Sholto Walker** combines digital techniques with traditional skills and media to create a signature style. He lives in London, England.

“One morning, Ali and Ollie are woken by a beastly snore. They look out the window and what do they see? Is it a giant carrot? A pumpkin? No, it’s a tiger, soaking wet and fast asleep. They decide his name must be Louis and he must have come from the sea.”

—ForeWord Reviews

See page 36.
Better Together
by Sheryl and Simon Shapiro
illustrated by Dušan Petričić

You stir and squoosh them, squish and moosh them. Mingle, blend, and mix!

Mix anything together and who knows what you’ll get. Water and flour, for example, make a sticky paste perfect for arts and crafts. And what can be better than mixing sugar, milk, and butter to produce yummy fudge?

In this series of bouncy rhymes, the concept of combining things is illustrated with simple words and vivid illustrations. Most children know that blending blue and yellow makes green, but who thinks of music being the result of mixing the sounds of instruments, or a team as the combination of many players with different talents?

Young children will love listening to these funny poems while learning about a simple, but important, concept.

Sheryl and Simon Shapiro have been married for 34 years. They live in Toronto, ON. They blended their different talents on this project, and the result is truly better together.

Dušan Petričić is the award-winning illustrator of such children’s classics as Mattiland and Bone Button Borscht. He lives in Toronto, ON.