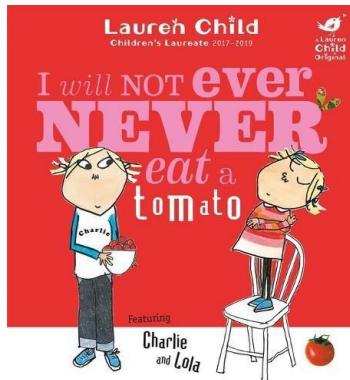


## Author Focus: Lauren Child

A selection of titles by the UK Children's Laureate 2017-2019, from her award winning picture books to her series about young spy Ruby Redfort. Find out more about Lauren Child [here](#)



### ***I will not ever NEVER Eat a Tomato***

Orchard 9781846168864

Charlie's little sister Lola is a very fussy eater. She has a long list of foods she will not entertain passing her lips. However, Charlie thinks of an imaginative way to encourage her to try everything. Eventually, Lola eats even her pet hate, tomatoes, by choice. The overall design of the book, with the text frequently interacting with Lauren Child's trademark collage illustrations to create labels, will entice young readers.

Winner of the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal in 2000.

[A CLPE core book](#)

Other picture books featuring Charlie and Lola include:

*But excuse ME THAT is my book* Puffin 9780141500539

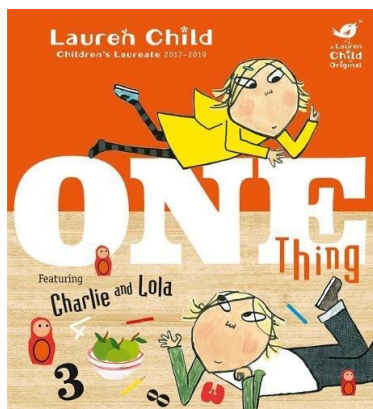
*We honestly CAN look after your dog* Puffin 9780141500522

*I am NOT sleepy and I will not go to bed* Orchard

9781846168840

*I am TOO absolutely small for school* Orchard 9781846168857

There are DVDs of Charlie and Lola's adventures, taken from their animated television series

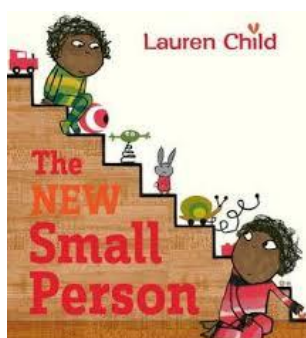


### ***Charlie & Lola: One Thing***

Orchard 9781408339015

An outing to the shops provides Charlie and his little sister Lola with lots of opportunities to explore numbers in the context of their everyday environment. In addition to counting a range of things, including the different birds wading in the water meadow and singing on the wire, they encounter many other aspects of maths such as: estimating the number of leaves on a tree, telling the time and fractions. However, no matter how you divide things up, sharing is central to this warm sibling relationship.

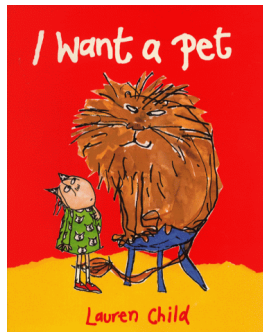
[A CLPE core book](#)



### ***The New Small Person***

Puffin 9780723293613

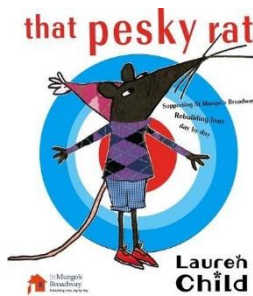
In this story of how Elmore Green adjusts to the arrival of a new sibling, the only characters seen in full figure are Elmore and the small person, giving a very child centred perspective. The gender of the small person is not specified until the end of the book with the revelation of a name, confirming that Elmore is seeing his sibling as a real individual at last rather than a nuisance invading his space.



### ***I Want a Pet***

Frances Lincoln 9780711213395

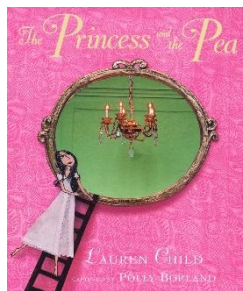
The child narrator in this book has many wonderful ideas about what kind of pet she would like – a lion, a sheep, an octopus – but her family come up with objections to every one. The girl finally finds a solution which may possibly turn out to be more trouble than all the rest put together. Each flight of fancy is illustrated on one page with the imagined consequences opposite accompanied by humorous deadpan dialogue.



### ***That Pesky Rat***

Orchard 9781408337370

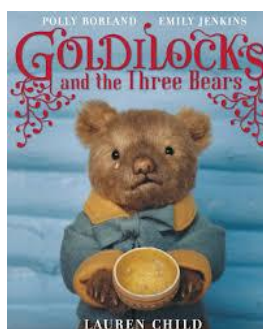
A rat really wants to be a pet, having seen the luxurious lives being lead by other animals of his acquaintance who have human 'owners'. Will he eventually find the home of his dreams?



### ***The Princess and the Pea***

Puffin 9780141500140

Lauren Child has adapted and embellished Hans Christian Andersen's story, creating a 3D version with her distinctively drawn characters set amongst dolls' house furniture in rooms made with boxes and board and then photographed by Polly Borland. Here the prince is more concerned with true romance than royal blood but still 'did the traditional fairy tale find-yourself-a-bride thing of riding far and wide looking throughout the kingdom for a real princess.' For more versions of this story and others by Andersen see our [booklist](#).



### ***Goldilocks and the Three Bears***

Puffin 9780141501253

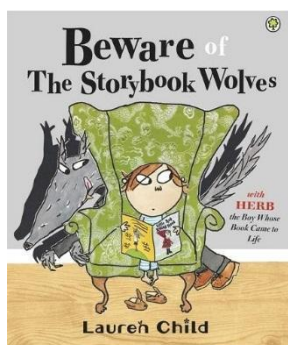
For this fairy tale Lauren Child also worked with Polly Borland who photographed the scenes of sets created by Emily Jenkins of the woodland setting and interior of the bears' house. The telling of the tale is elaborated a little although the basic well known patterned narrative is not altered. There are hints of other well-known stories as Goldilocks' mother instructs her not to stray from the path and the girl's little red shoes also have a role to play.



### ***Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book?***

Orchard 9781408307724

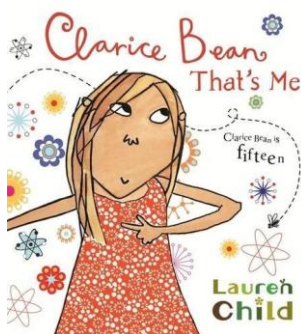
In this post-modern picture book, Herb falls asleep on the open pages of his book of fairy tales, and finds himself in a topsy-turvy world which he gradually discovers he has participated in making. Goldilocks is most displeased to find him in bed in the three bears' house. What has happened to Cinderella's Prince Charming? And why is there a telephone in every room? Lauren Child makes imaginative use of collage, incorporating food and fabrics, while her distinctive characters are drawn in a deceptively child-like style. The overall design of the pages plays an important part in the storytelling, with the font types and sizes and their position on the page being used to convey meaning. [A CLPE core book](#)



### ***Beware of the Storybook Wolves***

Orchard 9781408314807

When it's time to go to sleep, Herb insists that his mother removes the book containing his bedtime story because it has a wolf in it. Grownups think it's 'just a story' but wise children know better and, indeed, no sooner are the lights turned out, Herb can hear a rumbling tummy and smell something distinctly lupine... That's just the beginning of his encounters with fairy tale characters which have a nightmarish but also darkly humorous quality. Will he be able to close the book on this episode? [A CLPE core book](#)



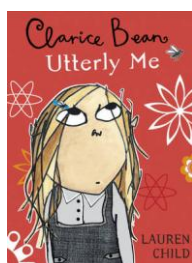
### ***Clarice Bean, That's Me***

Orchard 9781408300046

In this first picture book about Clarice Bean she introduces her family and describes them in her own opinionated way. She is a very modern young woman and this is a fresh and funny book. Also:

*What Planet Are You From, Clarice Bean?* Orchard 9781408300053

*My Uncle is a Hunkle Says Clarice Bean* Orchard 9781408300060



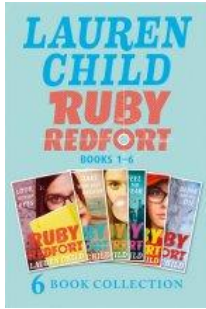
### ***Utterly Me, Clarice Bean***

Orchard 9781843623045

In this short novel readers get more insights into Clarice's family and school life and her trials and tribulations with her teacher Mrs Wilberton, related in her inimitable humorous style. Liberally interspersed with extracts from Clarice's favourite books about undercover girl spy Ruby Redfort. Clarice's adventures continue in:

*Clarice Bean Spells Trouble* Orchard 9781843628583

*Clarice Bean, Don't Look Now* Orchard 9781846165078



***Ruby Redfort 1. Look into My Eyes***

HarperCollins 9780007334070

One of Lauren Child's earliest and well-loved characters, Clarice Bean, has a favourite series of books featuring the redoubtable Ruby Redfort, a 13 year old recruited by the Spectrum Agency due to her advanced code-cracking skills. Readers' response prompted the author to give Ruby her own series and this is the first of six titles. Ruby cannot resist forsaking what was intended to be a deskbound job for action and adventure. The remaining titles are:

*Take Your Last Breath* 9780007334094

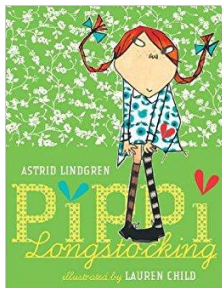
*Catch Your Death* 9780007334117

*Feel the Fear* 9780007334131

*Pick Your Poison* 9780007334278

*Blink and You Die* 9780007334292

More information about Ruby can be found [here](#).



***Pippi Longstocking*** by Astrid Lindgren

Oxford University Press 9780192782410

A modern classic about the strongest girl in the world who lives in Vilekula Cottage with only her horse and the monkey Mr Nelson for company. She soon leads the neighbouring children Tommy and Annika into many adventures. Astrid Lindgren is one of the best loved authors in the world and this freshly translated edition was published to mark the centenary of her birth with new illustrations which show off Pippi's independent and confident ways. [A CLPE core book](#)