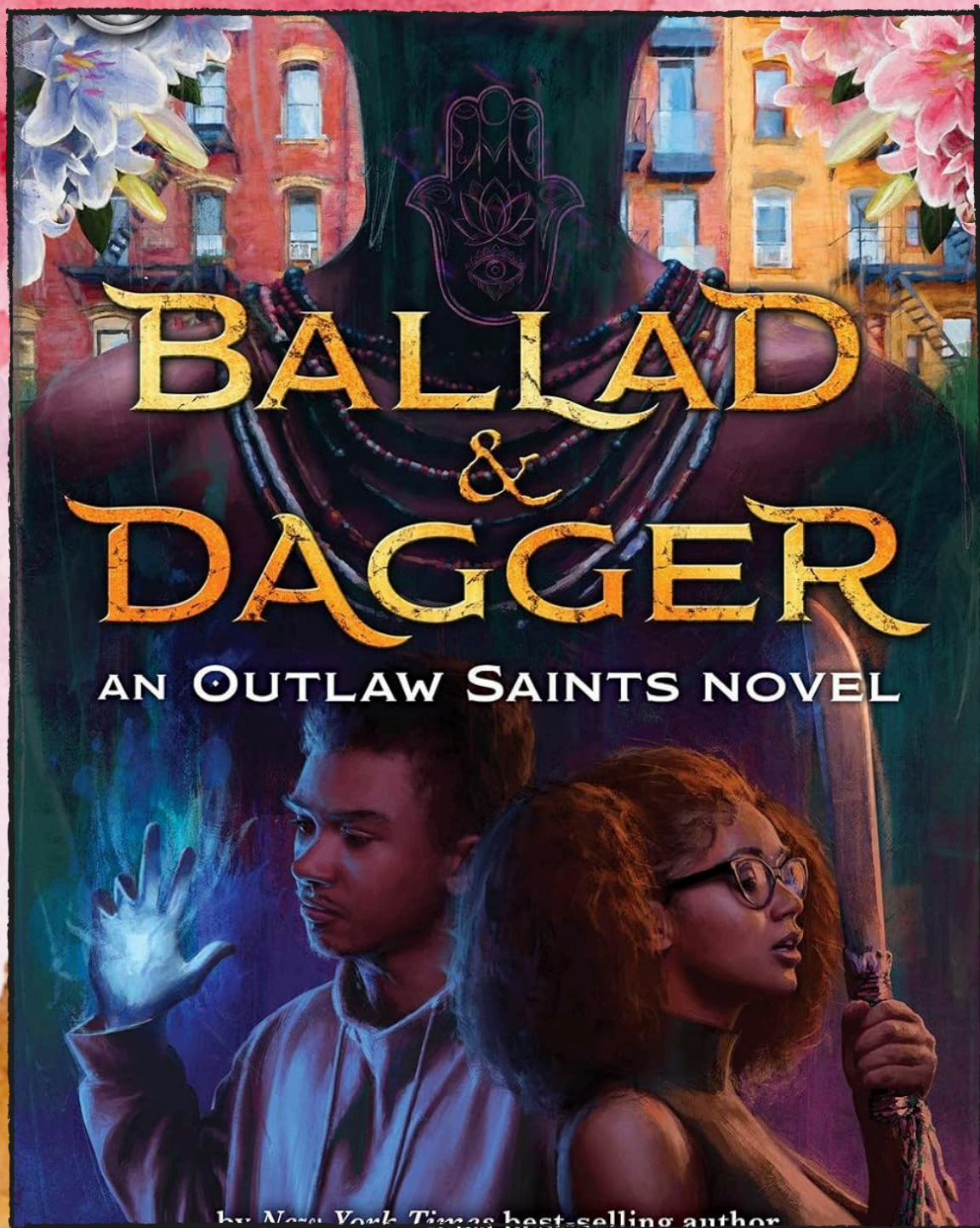


SORA SWEET READS: YOUNG ADULT

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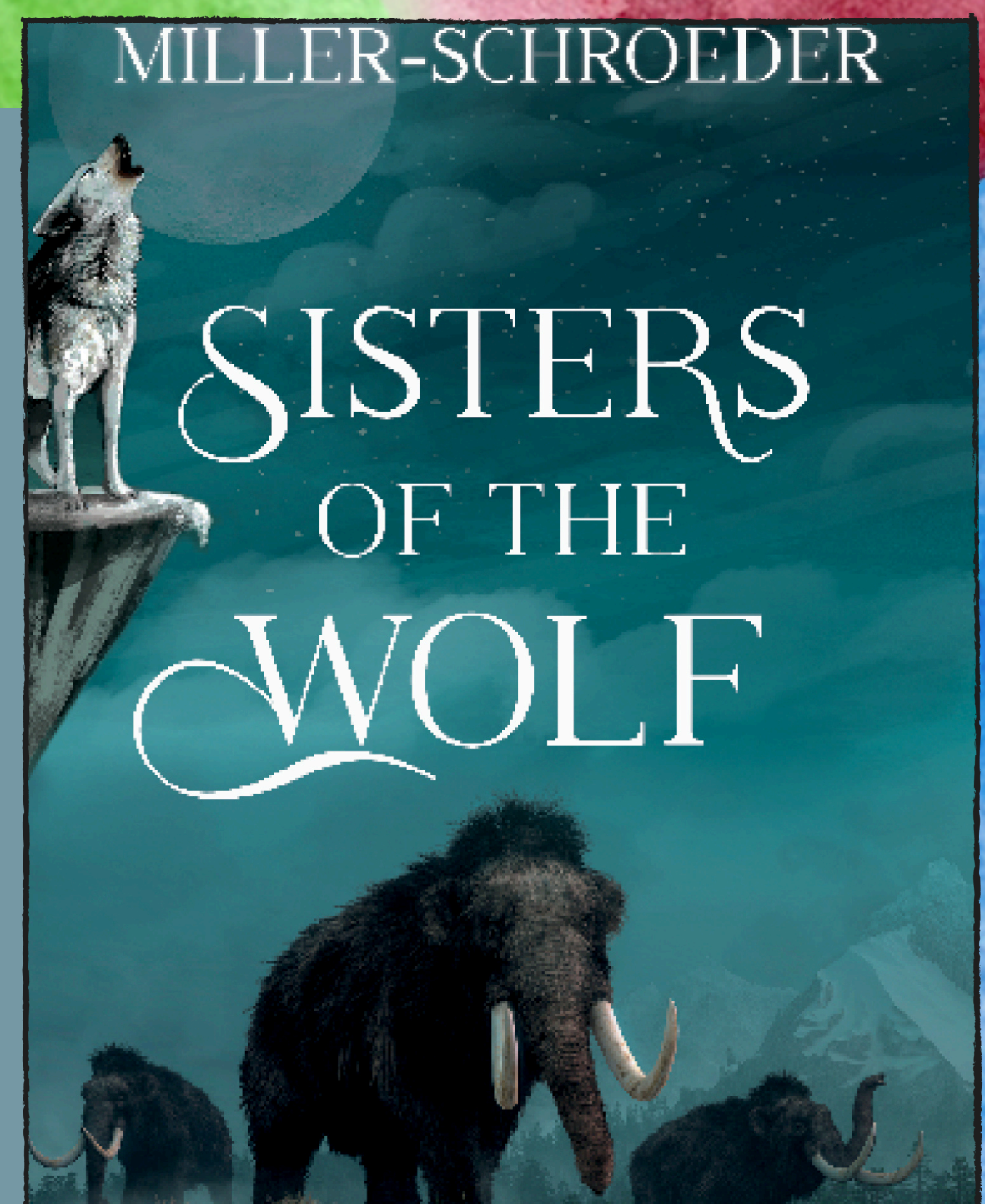


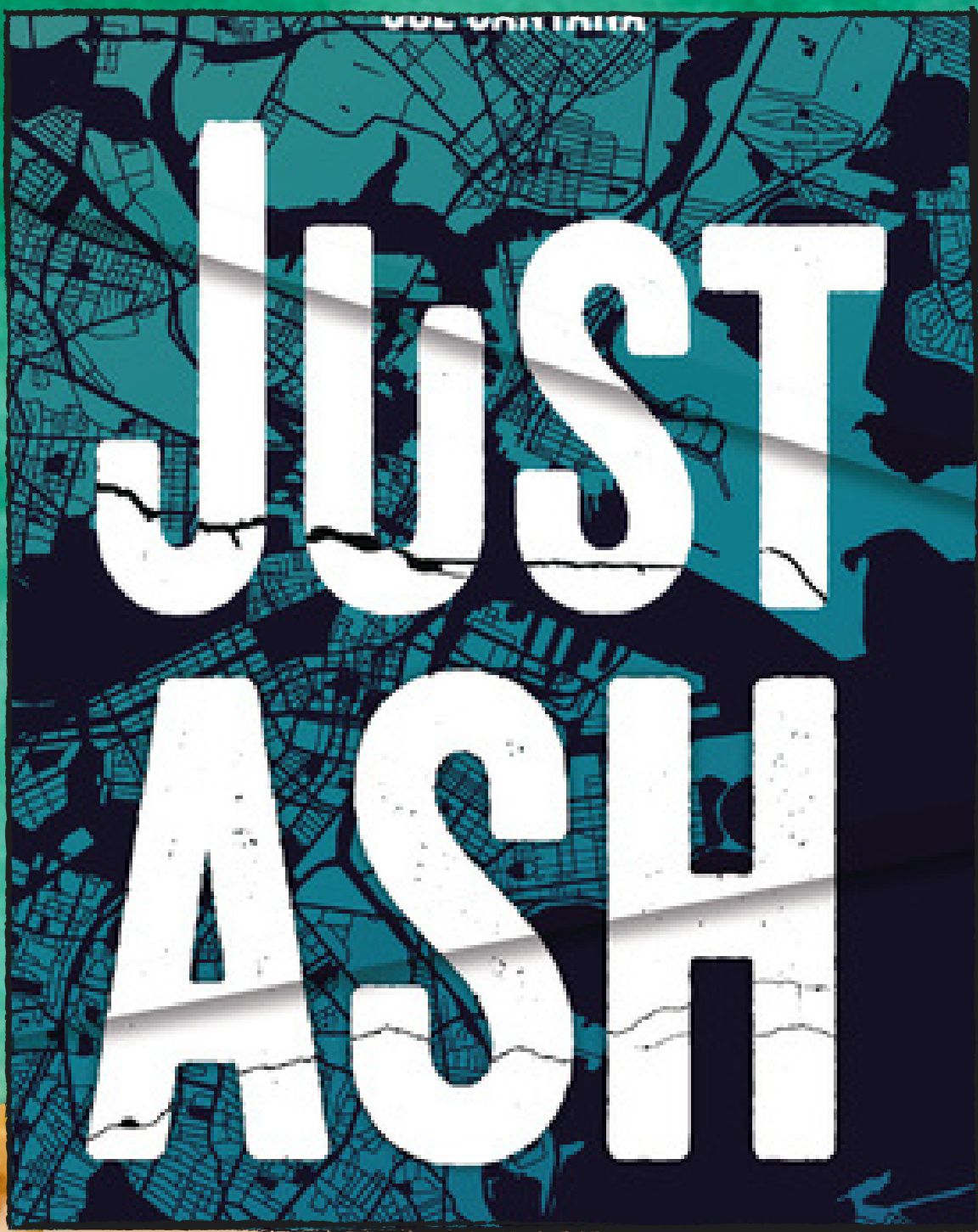
Ballad & Dagger by Daniel Jose Older

Almost sixteen years ago, Mateo Matisse's island homeland disappeared into the sea. Weary and hopeless, the survivors of San Madrigal's sinking escaped to New York. While the rest of his tight-knit Brooklyn diaspora community dreams of someday finding a way back home, Mateo--now a high school junior and piano prodigy living with his two aunts --is focused on one thing: getting the attention of locally-grown musical legend Gerval. Mateo finally gets his chance on the night of the Grand Fete, an annual party celebrating the blended culture of pirates, Cuban Santeros, and Sephardic Jews that created San Madrigal all those centuries ago. But the evil that sank their island has finally caught up with them, and on the night of the celebration, Mateo's life is forever changed when he witnesses a brutal murder by a person he thought he knew. Suddenly Mateo is thrust into an ancient battle that spans years and oceans. Deadly secrets are unraveled and Mateo awakens a power within himself--a power that not only links him to the killer but could also hold the key to unlocking the dark mystery behind his lost homeland.

Sisters of the Wolf by Patricia Miller-Schroeder

The climate is changing, game is disappearing, and two peoples of the Ice Age compete for survival in a savage world. Keena, from a powerful band of Neanderthals, and Shinoni, daughter of a Cro-Magnon shaman, are torn from their families by Haken, a ruthless hunter. The girls dislike each other but soon discover they need each other to survive. Together they escape but are pursued by Haken across an Ice-Age landscape rumbling with advancing glaciers and teeming with mighty predators. As Shinoni and Keena work to overcome disaster at every turn, they are joined by Tewa, a powerful she-wolf, who becomes their guardian and spirit guide. Can their growing friendship overcome cultural, racial, and even species differences? Will they ever be able to find their families? Only the spirits know.



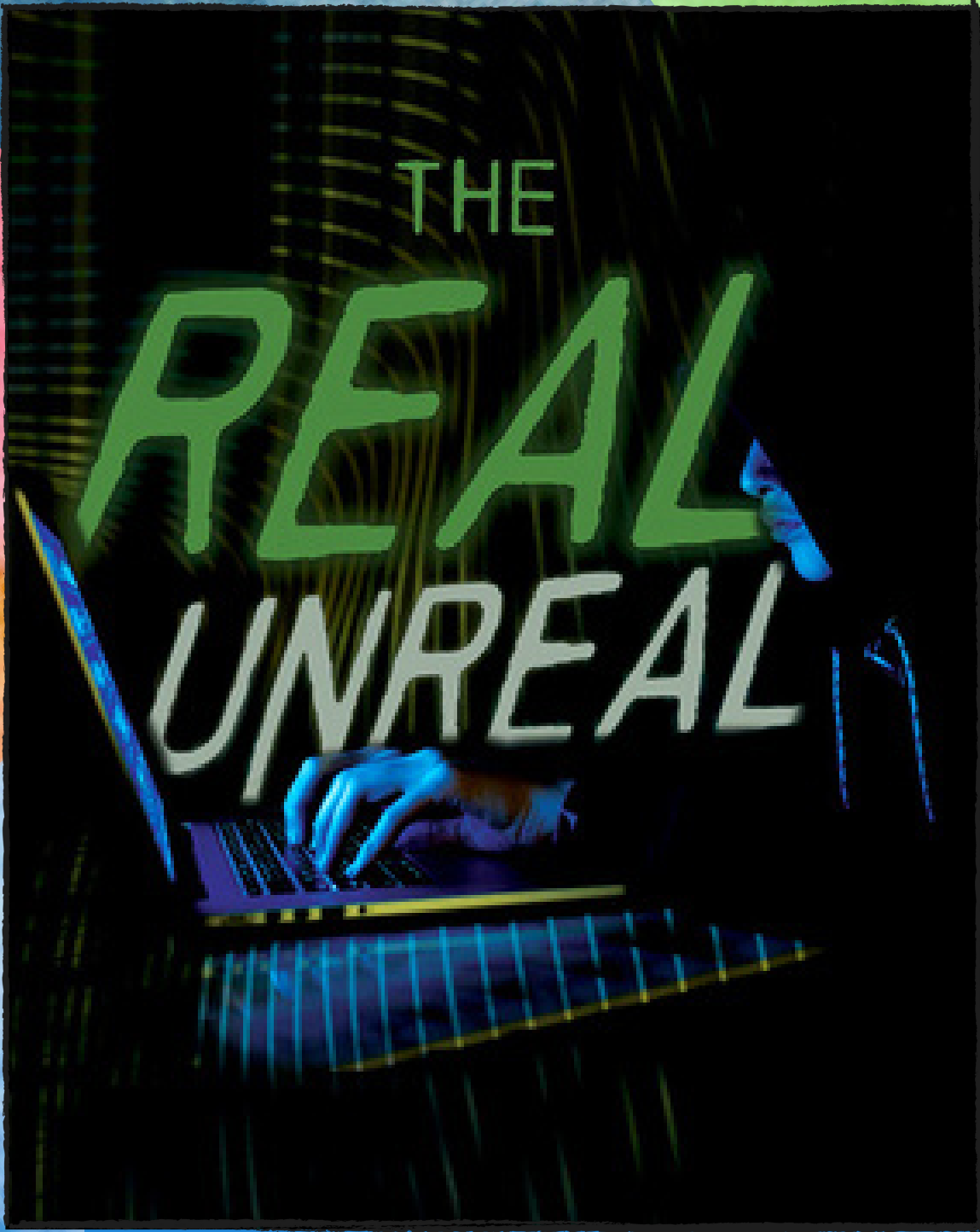


Just Ash
by Sol Santana

Ashley "Ash" Bishop has always known who he is: a guy who loves soccer, has a crush on his friend Michelle, and is fascinated by the gruesome history of his hometown—Salem, Massachusetts. He's also always known that he's intersex, born with both male and female genitalia. But it's never felt like a big deal until his junior year of high school, when Ash gets his first period in front of the entire boys' soccer team. Now his friends and teachers see him differently, and his own mother thinks he should "try being a girl." As tensions mount with his parents and Ash feels more and more like an outcast, he can't help feeling a deeper kinship with his ancestor Bridget Bishop, who was executed for witchcraft. She didn't conform to her community's expectations either; she was different, and her neighbors felt threatened by her. And she paid the ultimate price. Ash is haunted by her last recorded words: You will keep silent. Ash realizes that he needs to find a way to stand up for who he really is, or the cost of his silence might destroy his life, too.

Samson and Domingo
by Gume Laurel

Samson and Domingo fall in love during the summer before their junior year of high school. But Samson is the star player of Weslaco North's football team and Domingo is a French horn player for Weslaco South's marching band. Once school starts, their new love is challenged by those who don't agree with their rival schools mixing, especially Domingo's older brother, Pablo, a football player for South. As if that wasn't enough, Samson's Olympian-like athleticism is shrouded in mystery; the source of his strength is a secret he has vowed to keep his entire life. As Samson and Domingo's love blossoms, Samson learns to trust Domingo more than he has ever trusted anyone before, and Domingo opens his heart once again after heartbreak. But will their love be Samson's downfall?



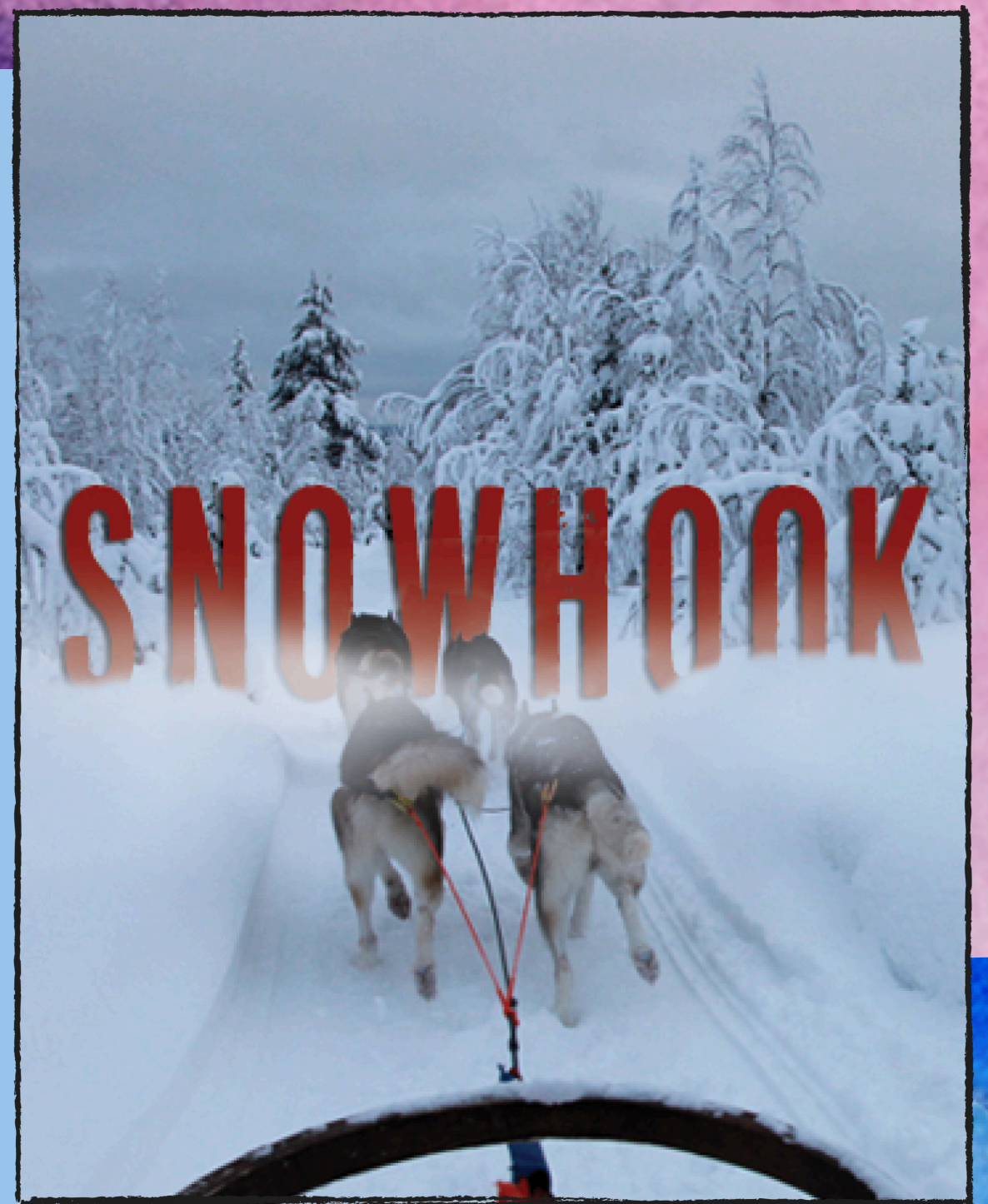
The Real Unreal
by Ryan Wolf

Nate Reilly is having the worst summer of his life. His parents are never home, he lost his job, and his arts program was cancelled due to a virus outbreak. When Nate comes across an online "game" that promises forbidden knowledge, he is quick to click the link. Soon, he finds himself plunged down a rabbit hole of strange theories, dark plots, and fanatical believers. As he grows alienated from his family and friends, Nate is consumed by his newfound ideas. But can he unplug from a destructive alternate reality before he takes it too far?

Snowhook by Jo Storm

At first, when a massive ice storm traps fourteen-year-old Hannah and her family in a remote cabin, it feels like a game to practise the survival skills she's been learning. That all changes when an accident leaves her mother desperately low on insulin. With no power and no way to contact the outside world, Hannah steals away with the four family dogs tied to an old dogsled.

All she has to do is make it to the nearest cabin and find a working phone to save the day. But a wrong turn and worsening weather leave her in grave danger and saddled with an unexpected passenger. Hannah must use all her skills and resourcefulness to get help for her family — before they all freeze to death in the wilderness.



The Dos and Donuts of Love by Adiba Jaigirdar

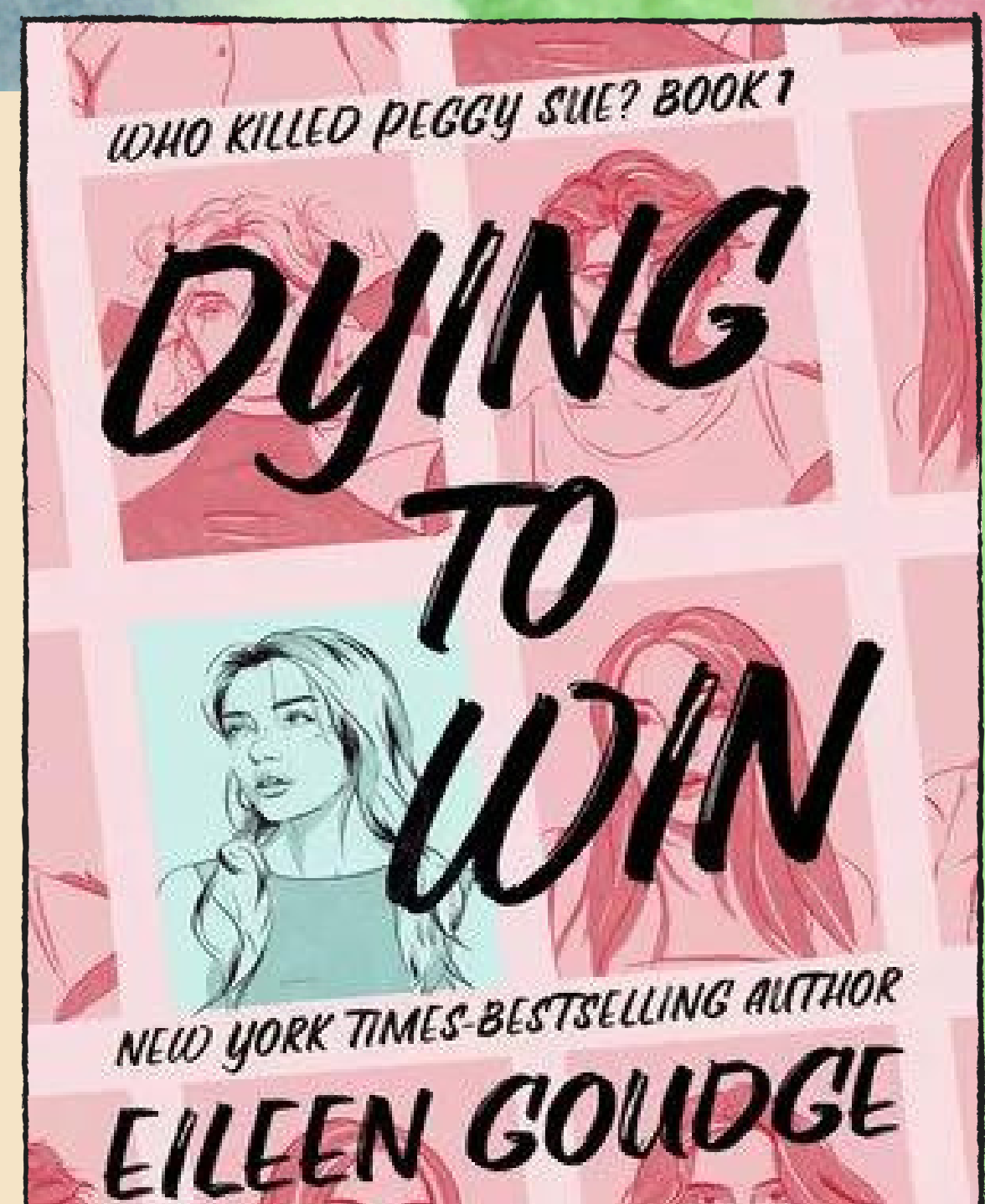
“Welcome to the first ever Junior Irish Baking Show!”

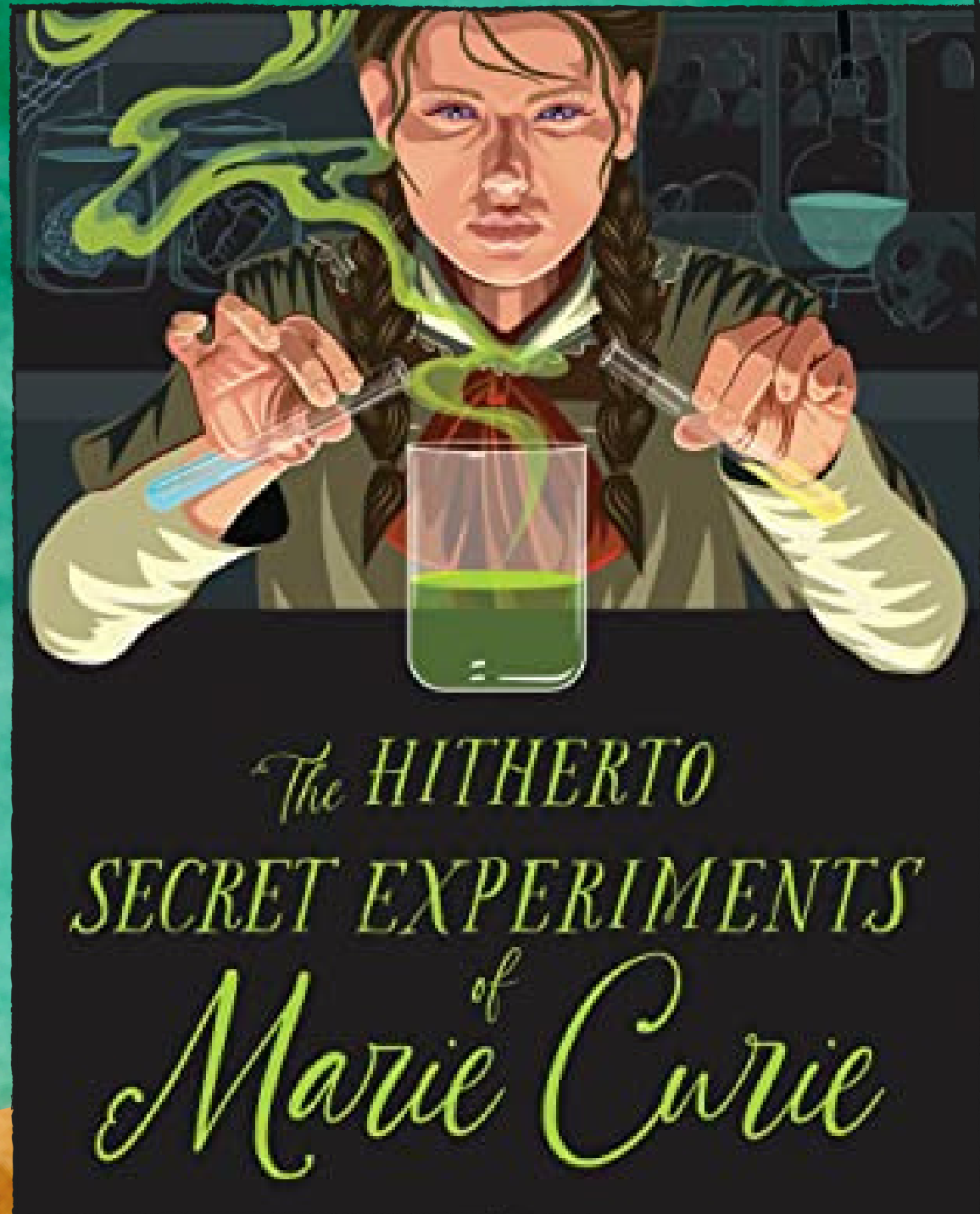
Shireen Malik is still reeling from the breakup with her ex-girlfriend, Chris, when she receives news that she’s been accepted as a contestant on a new televised baking competition show. This is Shireen’s dream come true! Because winning will not only mean prize money, but it will also bring some much-needed attention to You Drive Me Glazy, her parents’ beloved donut shop. Things get complicated, though, because Chris is also a contestant on the show. Then there’s the very outgoing Niamh, a fellow contestant who is becoming fast friends with Shireen. Things are heating up between them, and not just in the kitchen.

As the competition intensifies, Shireen will have to ignore all these factors and more— including potential sabotage—if she wants a sweet victory!

Dying to Win by Eileen Goudge

As four different girls--Lacey Pinkerton, Raven Cruz, Kiki De Santis, and April Lovewell--compete for the title of Miss Peggy Sue at Paradiso High's Peach Blossom Festival, no one realizes that the winner will pay with her life





The Hitherto Secret Experiments of Marie Curie by Bryan Thomas Schmidt

Luckily for humanity, scientist Marie Curie applied her brilliant mind and indomitable spirit to expanding the frontiers of science, but what if she had instead drifted toward the darkness?

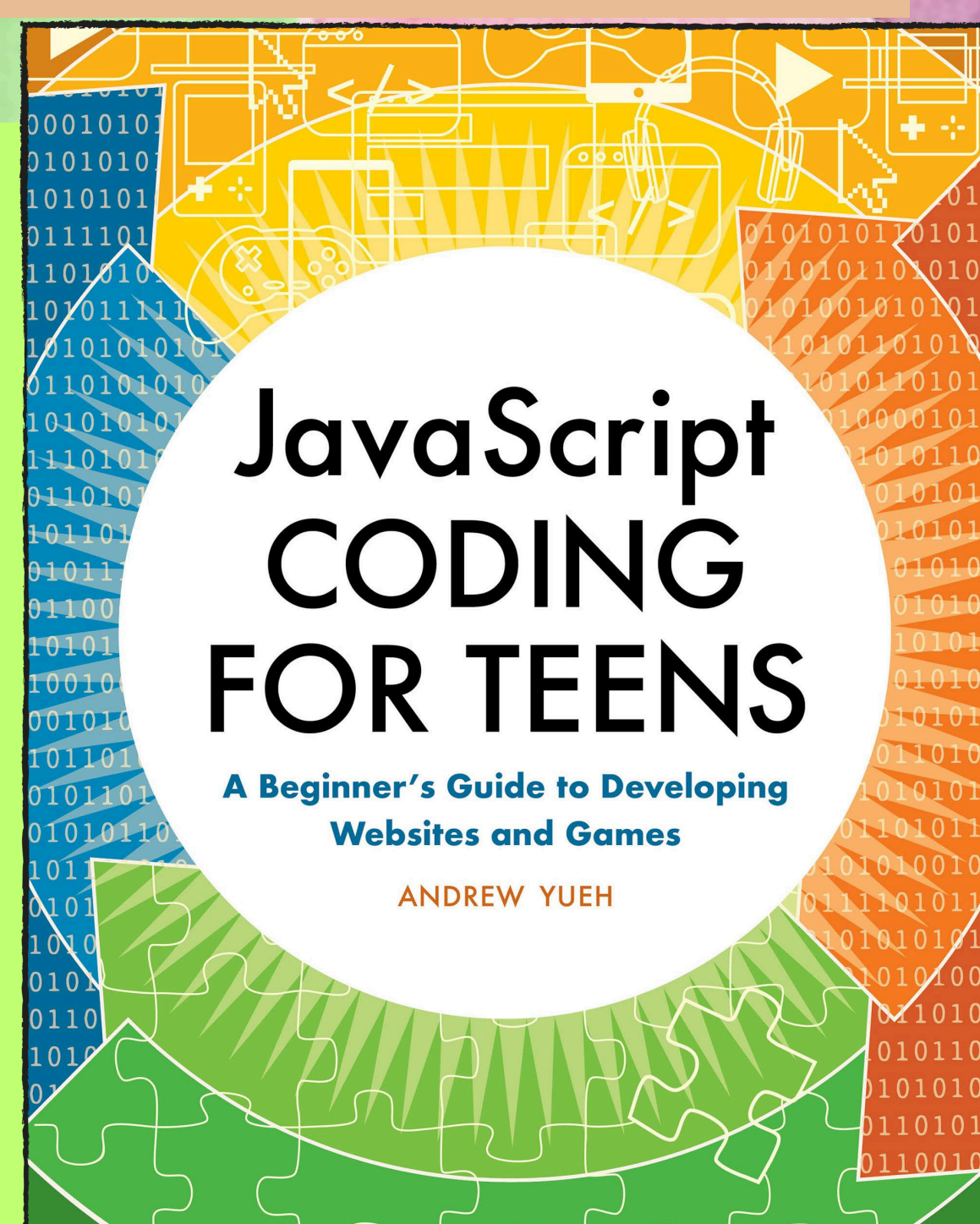
At the cusp of between child- and adulthood, at the crossroads between science and superstition, a teen Marie Curie faces the factual and the fantastic in this fabulous collection of stories that inspire, delight, and ask the question: What if she had used her talents for diabolical purposes?

The Hitherto Secret Experiments of Marie Curie includes twenty short stories and poems by award-winning writers including New York Times bestselling authors Seanan McGuire, Scott Sigler, Jane Yolen, Alethea Kontis, and Jonathan Maberry, plus Sarah Beth Durst, Lissa Price, Christine Taylor-Butler, Mylo Carbia, Jo Whitemore, Dee Leone, Susanne L. Lambdin, Steve Pantazis, Emily McCosh, Henry Herz, Bryan Thomas Schmidt & GP Charles.

Javascript: Coding for Teens by Andrew Yueh

Have you ever wanted to make your own game? How about an awesome website? Then *JavaScript Coding for Teens* is the book for you! It doesn't matter if you're not sure what a variable is, are stumped about syntax, or don't even know how to use JavaScript on your computer! This simple guide to coding for beginners walks you through every part of the process with easy-to-understand language and straightforward directions. You'll be coding like a pro in no time!

Beginner-friendly lessons—This guide to coding for teens starts out with the basics, providing the perfect foundation for coding novices. **A variety of uses**—Stretch your skills and discover how amazingly flexible and powerful JavaScript is as you learn to use it for programming websites and games. **Practical practice**—Gain confidence with exercises that test your ability to modify existing programs or create new ones.



Abuela, Don't Forget Me by Rex Ogle

In his memoir *Free Lunch*, Rex Ogle's abuela features as a source of love and support. In this companion memoir-in-verse, Rex captures and celebrates the powerful presence a woman he could always count on—to give him warm hugs and ear kisses, to teach him precious words in Spanish, to bring him to the library where he could take out as many books as he wanted, and to offer safety when darkness closed in. Throughout a coming of age marked by violence and dysfunction, Abuela's red-brick house in Abilene, Texas, offered Rex the possibility of home, and Abuela herself the possibility for a better life.

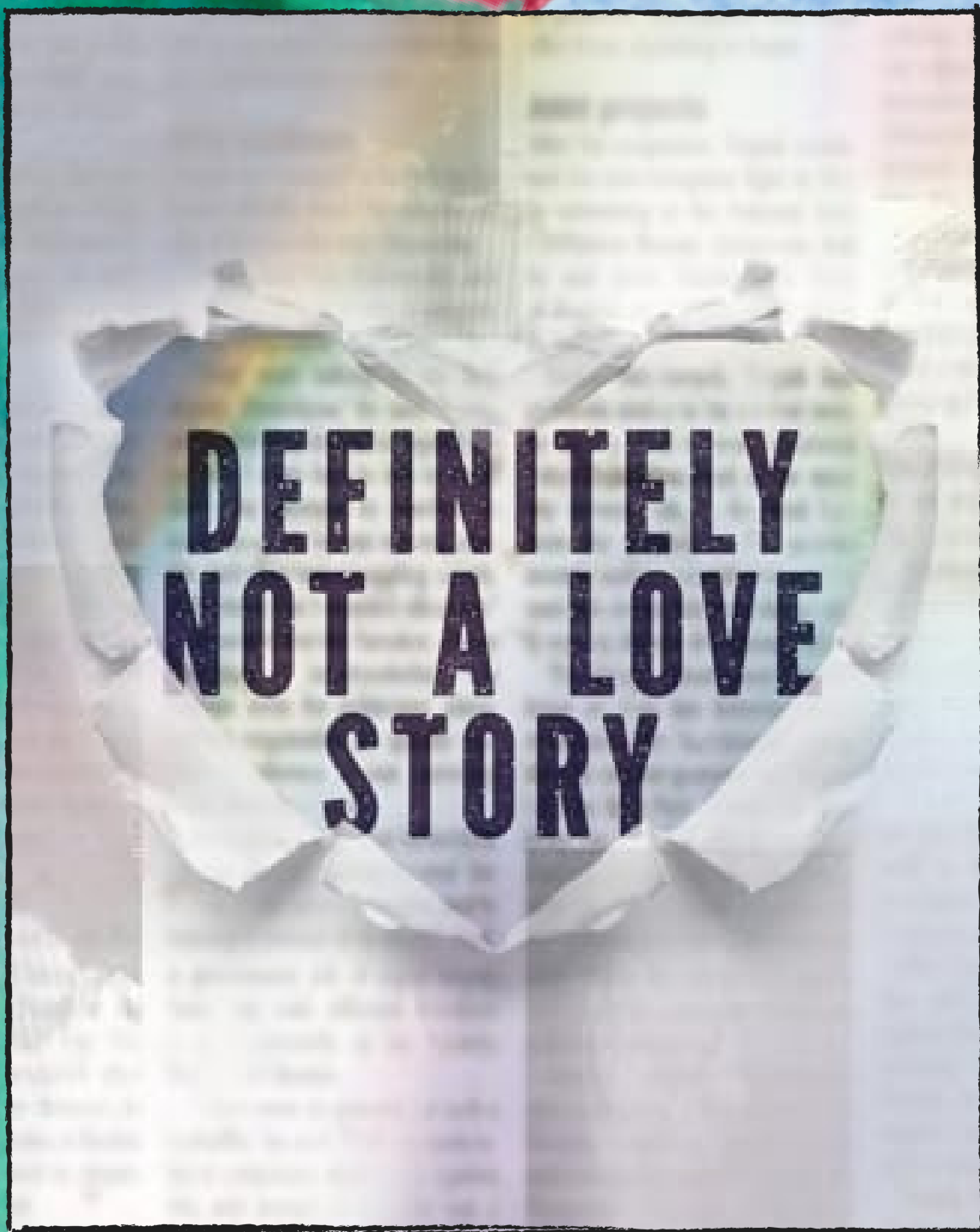
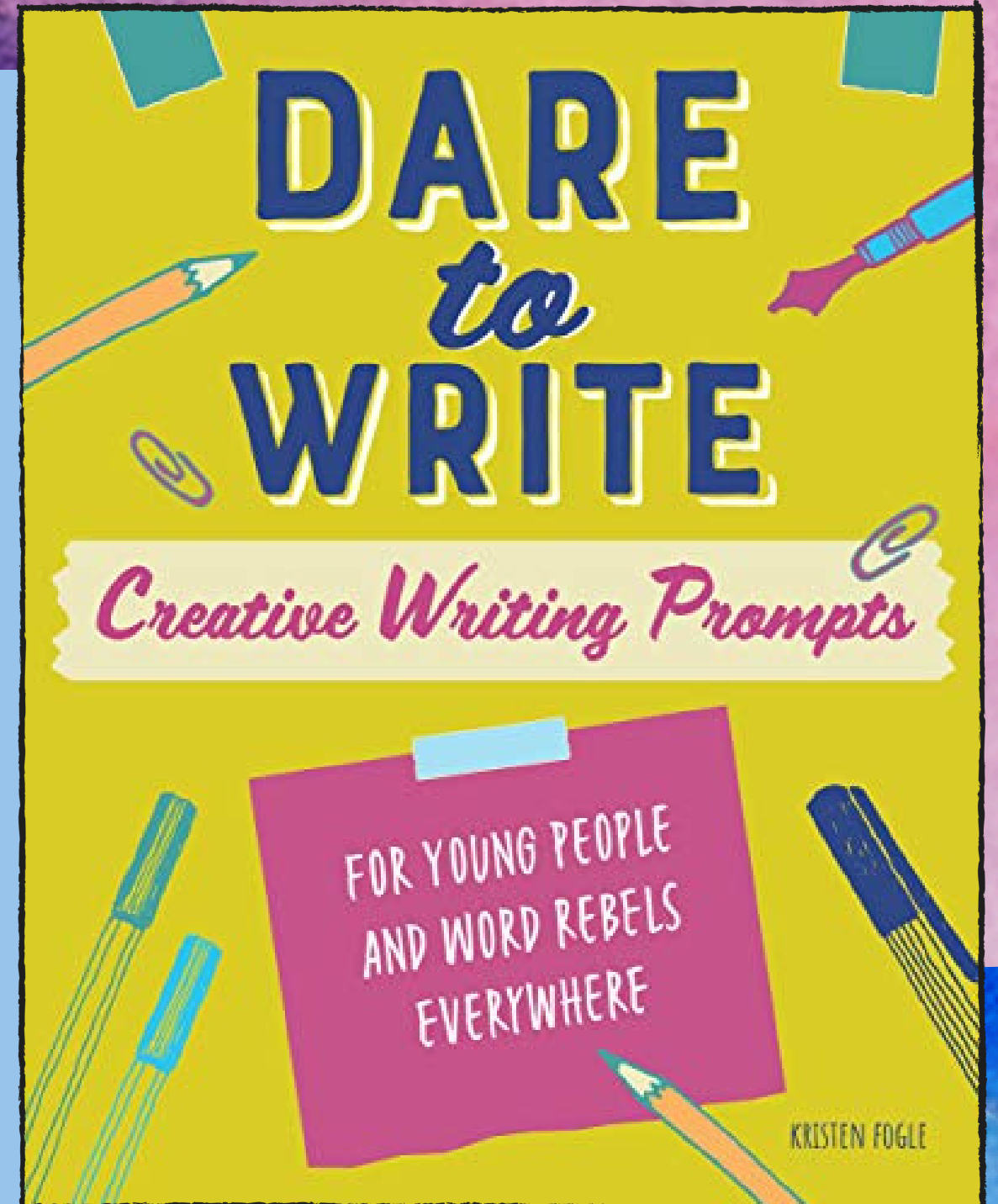
Dare to Write: Creative Writing Prompts **by Kristen Fogle**

Kickstart your creativity and free your inner writer—writing prompts for teens

What story do you have inside? Is it a romance, a drama, a fantasy...or all three? Dare to Write is here to inspire you with a huge variety of writing prompts, plot beginnings, and thought-provoking ideas. Scribble directly in the book or use your own notebook—the right way is however you want to write.

You're invited to capture your thoughts and feelings using these writing prompts. Dare to dive into the character worksheets, topic brainstormers, or three-minute challenges and see what unfolds. You can crack open any chapter you like, or start with the first writing prompts in the book.

Dare to Creative Writing Prompts for Young People and Word Rebels Everywhere



Definitely Not a Love Story **by Claudia Recinos Seldeen**

Ana has big plans to be an important writer. But not a romance writer, like her mom, because she's seen what love does to people. From her parents' constant bickering to her sister's endless string of broken hearts to her best friend's on-again, off-again relationship, love is messy and Ana wants no part of it. When a school writing contest pairs her up with Alejandro, a notorious serial dater, Ana is annoyed. Alejandro is everything she can't stand—romantic, sentimental, and idealistic. But Ana is willing to put her qualms aside for the sake of the big prize: publication. As the two work together to create a winning story, Ana finds herself impressed with Alejandro's writing. But despite their new connection, there's no way she can fall for him. After all, she's sure this is definitely not a love story.

Mountain Runaways **by Pam Withers**

Will their wilderness skills be enough to survive the dangerous Rocky Mountains?

First a Canadian Rockies avalanche kills their parents. Then Children's Services threatens to separate them. That's when the three Gunnarsson kids decide to run away into the mountains and fend for themselves until the oldest turns eighteen and becomes their legal guardian. Not many would dare. But Jon, Korka, and Aron's parents ran a survival school. Turns out their plan is full of holes. When food and equipment go missing and illness and injury strike, things get scary. They're even less prepared for encounters with dangerous animals and a sketchy woods dweller. On top of that, grief, cold, hunger, and sibling infighting threaten to tear them apart, while the search parties are closing in on them. Do Jon, Korka, and Aron really have what it takes to survive?

