



Robert Muchamore was born in London in 1972. He started writing in his early twenties and published his first novel, *CHERUB: The Recruit* (Hodder), in 2004. Fifteen years later Robert's *CHERUB*, *Henderson's Boys* and *Rock War* novels have sold over fifteen million copies in more than thirty countries. The books have won worldwide acclaim for inspiring a love of reading in older children, and a *CHERUB* TV series is now in development with [Komixx Media](#) with backing from [Sony Pictures Television](#).

In September 2018 Robert's first stand-alone YA novel *Killer T* (Hot Key Books) was a Guardian Book of the Month. A second YA stand-alone, *Arctic Zoo* was The Times Children's Book of the Week on publication in July 2019.

In April 2020 Hot Key Books will be launching Robert's first new series in six years: [Robert Muchamore's Robin Hood](#).

Robert has toured both nationally and internationally to promote his books, with regular appearances at major literary festivals including Edinburgh, Hay, Bath and YALC. In recent years he has appeared on BBC News, Sky News, Talk Radio, BBC Radio 4's Loose Ends, BBC Radio 2's Steve Wright Show, BBC Breakfast TV, and as a returning guest panellist on Channel 5 TV's The Wright Stuff. He regularly works with independent publicist [Deborah Goodman](#).

For more information on Robert and his books, visit his [author website](#).

## Key Data

- Worldwide sales of over 15 million copies in more than 30 countries. Worldwide English language sales exceed 8 million copies, French language sales exceed 3.5 million copies, and German language sales top 1.5 million copies.
- CHERUB novels have been translated into 24 languages, and have been number one bestsellers in eight countries including the UK, France, Germany, Australia and New Zealand.
- CHERUB: *The Recruit* won the Red House Children's Book Award in 2005, and the 12+ category of Richard & Judy's first ever children's book award in 2007. It featured as a [World Book Night](#) title in 2014, with a special edition of the book printed for distribution to adult and young adult readers.
- In 2012 Robert Muchamore was the number one author in the UK for boys aged 11+, based on Nielsen BookScan figures, and he was still the number one British author in that category in 2013.
- In 2015 a chart of 'TCM stalwarts' ranking authors by the number of weeks their books have spent in the TCM Top 5000 placed Robert Muchamore joint second in the Top 100 (after Julia Donaldson, and alongside Anthony Horowitz), with four titles in the CHERUB series, led by CHERUB 2: *Class A* at 514 weeks. (Source: The Bookseller)

## In the Media

[Robert Muchamore discussing \*Killer T\*](#) on the Steve Wright Show, BBC Radio 2

[How author Robert Muchamore got boys reading again](#) – The Telegraph

[Robert Muchamore and Tom Lamont on celebrity publishing](#) – The Observer

BBC documentary *The Return of the Hero* (2007) on the appeal of Robert Muchamore's CHERUB series: [8 minute segment on YouTube](#)

# Bibliography

## CHERUB Series 1 (Hodder Children's Books):

CHERUB 1: The Recruit (2004)  
CHERUB 2: Class A (2004)  
CHERUB 3: Maximum Security (2005)  
CHERUB 4: The Killing (2005)  
CHERUB 5: Divine Madness (2006)  
CHERUB 6: Man Vs Beast (2006)  
CHERUB 7: The Fall (2007)  
CHERUB 8: Mad Dogs (2007)  
CHERUB: Dark Sun (Short novel for World Book Day 2008)  
CHERUB 9: The Sleepwalker (2008)  
CHERUB 10: The General (2008)  
CHERUB 11: Brigands MC (2009)  
CHERUB 12: Shadow Wave (2010)

## CHERUB Series 2 (Hodder Children's Books):

CHERUB 13: People's Republic (2011)  
CHERUB 14: Guardian Angel (2012)  
CHERUB 15: Black Friday (2013)  
CHERUB 16: Lone Wolf (2014)  
CHERUB 17: New Guard (2016)

## HENDERSON'S BOYS (Hodder Children's Books)

Henderson's Boys 1: The Escape (2009)  
Henderson's Boys 2: Eagle Day (2009)  
Henderson's Boys 3: Secret Army (2010)  
Henderson's Boys 4: Grey Wolves (2011)  
Henderson's Boys 5: The Prisoner (2012)  
Henderson's Boys 6: One Shot Kill (2012)  
Henderson's Boys 7: Scorched Earth (2013)

## ROCK WAR (Hodder Children's Books)

Rock War 1: Rock War (2014)  
Rock War: The Audition (Short novel for World Book Day 2014)  
Rock War 2: Boot Camp (2015)  
Rock War 3: Gone Wild (2016)  
Rock War 4: Crash Landing (2017)

Killer T (Hot Key Books) – September 2018; MMP July 2019

Arctic Zoo (Hot Key Books) – July 2019; MMP Feb 2020

*Launching in April 2020*: Robert Muchamore's Robin Hood (Hot Key Books)

# Reviews

‘Robert Muchamore is one of the authors who got boys reading again at the beginning of the millennium by writing the sort of books that they wanted to read. As old-school-style adventure books had been phased out in favour of single parents, relationships and issues, boys had started to think that books weren’t for them. Muchamore’s stroke of genius was to take the “broken home” style of social-realist fiction and marry it to the action thriller genre. *The Recruit* starts like many a kids’ misery tale. James is in trouble at school, his mum’s a professional shoplifter, his stepfather’s a lazy scrounger. When drink kills off his mum, James is put into care, and that’s where the story takes a turn into fantasy. All kids dream of suddenly developing superpowers or at least a talent for kung fu. In Muchamore’s case, his hero gets full secret service training when he’s recruited by Cherub, a branch of MI5 that uses children. From there on in, Muchamore very cleverly balances gritty, vivid and authentic teen soap opera, the school story (the Cherub training camp standing in for Hogwarts) with Bond-style action adventure, as, in a hugely popular series of adventures, James goes up against terrorists, drug dealers, religious cults and biker gangs. The books are written in a pacy, direct style and are seen by their many fans as being, like James himself, cool and a little bit bad.’ – Charlie Higson in *The Guardian*

‘CHERUB leads the market for action series.’ – *The Bookseller*

‘Punchy, exciting, glamorous and, what’s more, you’ll completely wish it was true.’ – *The Sunday Express* on *CHERUB*

‘The change that has come over Jimmy since discovering Cherub is that he’s transformed from a reluctant reader into a child who must be forcibly peeled from his books, and who spends pocket money on novels rather than LEGO mini-figures and Haribo. Muchamore’s done something I’d failed to do; he’s turned my son into a reader.’ – Clover Stroud in *The Times*

‘...and best of all Robert Muchamore’s Cherub series and Anthony Horowitz’s Alex Rider novels. It is the adventurous element the boys have loved, and Muchamore in particular has the ability to keep boys reading, because of their intense identification with James, the young spy at the books’ heart.’ – Sarah Crompton in *The Telegraph*

‘A fast read with plenty of action and interesting characters’ – Rick Riordan on *CHERUB 1: The Recruit*

‘A pacy spy thriller ... Muchamore’s taut writing and powerful descriptions make this a haunting and tough contemporary fantasy.’ – *Time Out* on *CHERUB 1: The Recruit*, one of its 100 Best Children’s Books

‘The first book in Robert Muchamore’s spectacular *CHERUB* series follows James through his gruelling basic training, and an undercover mission which sees him helping to foil a group of terrorists. Chilling, convincing and brilliantly-written, this adventure will grip readers from beginning to end.’ – Booktrust on *CHERUB 1: The Recruit*

‘A skilful writer and the book has great pace.’ – *The Financial Times* on *CHERUB 13: People’s Republic*

‘Packed with action and drama and near-the-knuckle humour, Muchamore has saved his best until last.’ — *The Daily Mail* on *CHERUB 17: New Guard*

‘Muchamore’s plain, punchy, often funny style ... is highly effective... This clever, tense novel is a great way of getting bored boys interested in history.’ – Amanda Craig in *The Times* on *Henderson’s Boys 1: The Escape*

‘It has the feel of something quite big and satisfying ... Muchamore’s voice is fresh and direct.’ – *The Telegraph* on *Henderson’s Boys 1: The Escape*

‘This series is a prequel to the Cherub books and it is just as good, so it’s perfect for fans of Cherub. This is a totally brilliant book ... and it works amazingly as a standalone. I would rate this book 10/10.’ – Guardian children’s book site reviewer on Henderson’s Boys 5: *The Prisoner*

‘Gripping adventure ... Muchamore knows exactly how to write for teenagers and this is fantastic.’ – The Sun on Henderson’s Boys

‘Rock War marks the start of a new series for Robert Muchamore, author of the wildly successful CHERUB books ... he shows a real sensitivity towards his characters. A belter.’ – The Financial Times

‘A sure-fire winner: daring, pacy and authentic. Muchamore is brilliant at creating engaging, believable characters who resonate with his readers.’ ... ‘Muchamore is second to none when it comes to getting inside teenagers’ heads. Rock War is a rollercoaster read, full of breathtaking twists and turns.’ – The Daily Express

‘An exhilarating story’ – The Daily Express on Rock War 4: *Crash Landing*

‘For anyone who has ever played air guitar in front of the mirror (all of us, surely?) Robert Muchamore’s Rock War is head-bangingly brilliant.’ – The Independent on *Rock War*, one of its six best YA books of 2015

‘a big, slow-burning standalone, full of tangible detail, sexual frankness and believable characterisation ... Muchamore’s audacious year-long time-lapses between frenetic passages of action won’t be to everyone’s taste, but for some *Killer T* will be pure catnip.’ – Imogen Russell-Williams on *Killer T*, a Guardian Book of the Month, September 2018.

‘Charlie and Harry are the kind of fully-formed characters whose stories you’re desperate to follow. They’re complicated, authentically flawed, and the sparky tension between them is tinglingly tangible. This is truly gripping tale, big in scope, big in action and big in emotional impact.’ – Joanne Owen on *Killer T*, LoveReading4Kids’ Book of the Month for September 2018

‘a perfect book for those teenagers who have grown up with ‘Cherub’ and are now young adults. ... There are four sections in the book and each skips ahead years so that Muchamore can cover more ground. The strategy really works ... It’s a sobering, terrifying book which all young adults should read.’ – Brian Toal in Westender Glasgow magazine on *Killer T*

‘the intriguing concept and high-stakes action will keep readers turning the pages, whether they’re already die-hard Muchamore fans or newcomers. This is a book difficult to put down.’ – Claire Hennessy in The Irish Times on *Killer T*

‘Gill Ward, senior librarian at Fortismere School in north London, thinks *Killer T* by Robert Muchamore is a book that will appeal to even the most reluctant teenage reader. “It’s a fast-paced dystopian epic, which has a bit of violence and sex in it – teens love that, and it teaches them empathy.”’ – The Guardian on *Killer T*, one of its ‘Smart Christmas presents for children – as chosen by teachers’, December 2018

‘an addictive new stand-alone story for teenagers that interrogates gay rights, political activism, the wealth divide and the mental health system. ... Often with dual-narrative novels you get hooked on one and try to wade through the other to get back to it. Not so here, where Muchamore with pacing and finesse, ensures we are absorbed in two worlds that have nods to each other without being twinned tenuously.’ – Alex O’Connell on *Arctic Zoo*, The Times Children’s Book of the Week, July 2019

‘A perfectly paced thriller ... written from a place of experience and compassion’ – Bonnie Evie Gifford in Happiful Magazine on *Arctic Zoo*