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Brief: HODDER\_CH

## under age

## frances atkinson

YOUNG ADULT Nothing Scares Me Gene Kemp, Allen & Unwin, \$15.95

Some call it a gift but Petra thinks her psychic ability is nothing more than a burden. To make matters worse. she



sees dead people, too. When a girl disappears, Petra is forced to explore her powers and discovers that evil is much closer than she thought. Petra may not be scared ... but she should be. A taut, supernatural thriller with a nasty sting.

YOUNGER READERS Tashi And The Stolen Bus Anna Fienberg, Barbara Fienberg and Kim Gamble Allen & Unwin, \$11.95 There's nothing Tashi likes better than a good mystery. A stolen bus, a nasty demon, a kidnapping and a thief on the loose all add up to big trouble in



Tashi's village. Energetic and wellpaced, the 13th book penned by the mother and daughter team is another winner. Gamble's illustrations are consistently entertaining and give the book an added dimension.

## PICTURE BOOKS Ella Kazoo Will Not Brush Her Hair Lee Fox and Cathy Wilcox Lothian, \$27.95

Vibrant, wilful and blissfully disobedient, Ella, as the title suggests, is not keen on having her Rapunzel-

like mane



brushed. She hides under the stairs, buries the brush in her sock drawer and manages to bring her poor mother to the very brink. With each page, Ella's locks grow longer, until her tendrils threaten to strangle her. Defeated by the curly mass, Ella agrees to a haircut. The result? Tres chic. Fox's words and Wilcox's illustrations are every bit as original as Ella.