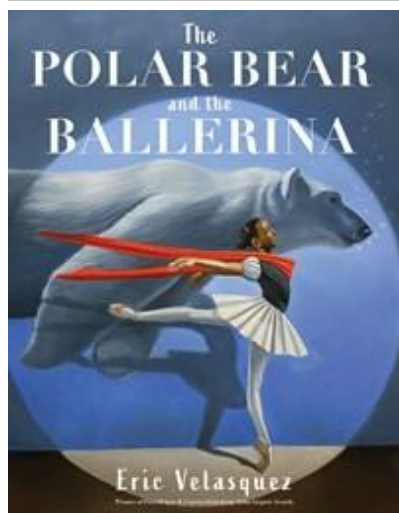


HOLIDAY HOUSE

Books for Young People

FALL 2025

HolidayHouse.com



Holiday House
9780823449187
Pub Date: 10/14/2025
On Sale Date: 10/14/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Performing Arts
11 in H | 8.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Polar Bear and the Ballerina

Eric Velasquez

Summary

How does a bear go to the ballet? A polar bear escapes into New York City in this heartfelt picture book from award-winning Afro-Latino artist Eric Velasquez.

A wordless story of unlikely friendship that celebrates art and its ability to connect us. However, this picture book also opens a conversation about alienation and empathy. Who is kept out of the theater? How can we welcome them in? A deeply personal story, author Eric Velasquez sees himself in this tale.

When dancers have a photoshoot at the Central Park Zoo, a young, African American ballerina and a polar bear form a special friendship. When his new friend leaves her scarf behind, the polar bear must venture through Central Park and out into Manhattan to return it before her performance at the Lincoln Center.

However, the theatergoers eye the strange bear with suspicion. When the ushers won't let him inside, the ballerina comes to his rescue and welcomes him in. The polar bear has dreamed of seeing the ballet, and now he gets to be a part of it in the most surprising way.

The wordless narrative is told through expressive and detailed oil paintings. On the endpapers, readers learn more about these loveable characters with illustrations of zoo signage about polar bears and a magazine article about the young ballerina.

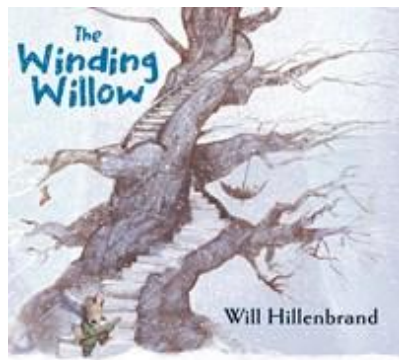
Eric Velasquez, author-illustrator of Bank Street Best Book of the Year *Octopus Stew*, brings a dream-like magic to this tale of empathy and kindred spirits.

Contributor Bio

Eric Velasquez's awards include the John Steptoe / Coretta Scott King Award for new talent, a Pura Belpré Award, an NAACP Image Award, and a Carter G. Woodson Award. For Holiday House, he both wrote and illustrated *Looking for Bongo*, and he illustrated *Ol'Clip-Clop: A Ghost Story* by Patricia C. McKissack (Anne Izard Storyteller's Choice Award Winner, Georgia Children's Book Award, Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year--Outstanding Merit) and *New Shoes* by Susan Lynn Meyer (Jane Addams Peace Association Children's Book Award, Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year, New York State Reading Association Charlotte Award). The son of Afro-Puerto Rican parents who encouraged music and storytelling, Eric grew up in Spanish Harlem, New York. As a child, he loved superheroes, comics and drawing, much like the boy in *Octopus Stew*. He teaches illustration at the Fashion Institute of Technology and lives in New York.

Author Residence: Harstddale, NY

Author Hometown: Harlem, New York



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On Sale Date: 9/30/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Action & Adventure
10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Winding Willow

Will Hillenbrand

Summary

Join brave young mouse Hubert Cumberbun on a fantastical wintertime adventure in this epic companion to Will Hillenbrand's acclaimed picture book *The Voice in the Hollow* that also includes a double gatefold surprise.

Hubert Cumberbun is on his way home. . . well, a way home! Wind obscures his path. Shadows flicker. And Hubert finds a mysterious tree, filled with enticing lost and found treasures. There's his brother's runaway shoe! His father's umbrella! The key to their house!

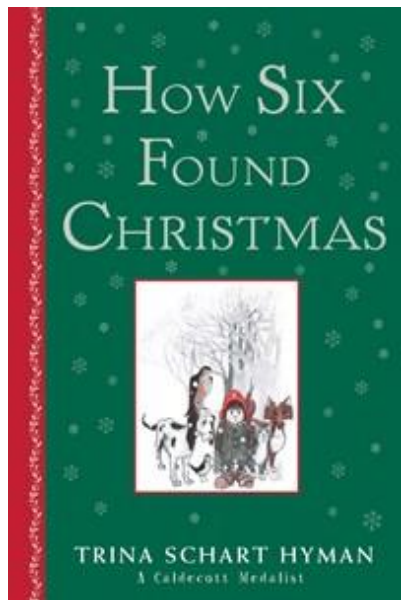
Now, Hubert will have to brave the surreal snowy landscape and the hungry owl who lives there to bring his found trinkets home. Holding on tight to his umbrella, he daringly soars above the wintry world below... and makes it back in time to share a delicious loaf of cinnamon bread with his family.

A companion to Will Hillenbrand's *The Voice in the Hollow*, *The Lost and Found Tree* is a fantastical journey for fans and newcomers alike. Sparse text and epic artwork meld to create a timeless tale sure to warm families' hearts on even the coldest winter nights.

Contributor Bio

Will Hillenbrand has written and illustrated a wide range of picture books for children, including the popular Bear and Mole series. A companion to *The Lost and Found Tree*, *The Voice in the Hollow*, received two starred reviews from *Kirkus* and *SLJ*. Hillenbrand is the recipient of many accolades, including an ALA Notable Book Award, multiple IRA Children's Choice Awards, and the author of a Bank Street Children's Best Book of the Year. He lives in Ohio with his wife, Jane Hillenbrand, with whom he wrote Pennsylvania One Book *What a Treasure*.

Author Residence: Cincinnati, OH



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\$15.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays & Celebrations
7.5 in H | 5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

How Six Found Christmas

Trina Schart Hyman

Summary

Enter the Great Snow Forest to discover what Christmas truly is in this beautifully-produced reissue of a holiday classic from Caldecott Medalist Trina Schart Hyman.

Once upon a time there was a little girl who had never heard of Christmas and therefore did not know what it was. So she sets off into the snowy woods in search of it, gathering a memorable troupe of animal companions along the way: a curious cat, a sad-faced hound, a regal hawk, a wise old fox, and an amusing nightingale.

Each of her companions has questions: What does Christmas feel like? Is it comfortable and warm? What does it sound like? Does it laugh? Does it shriek? But beneath the gently falling snow, they discover a different answer to their questions than expected: Christmas is how Christmas feels.

A timeless classic, this stunning reissue of Caldecott Medalist Trina Schart Hyman's gentle, introspective holiday tale, leaves readers with the greatest Christmas story of all: that Christmas is not only where you find it; it's what you make of it.

Contributor Bio

Trina Schart Hyman (1939 - 2004) received one Caldecott Medal and three Caldecott Honors during her distinguished career. From the age of four she knew that she would become an illustrator. She insisted that drawing was her reason for being. "I drew because I needed to," she said, "as well as for the sheer joy of it." She created iconic, exquisite illustrations for more than 150 books. Born in Philadelphia, she lived most of her life in New Hampshire.



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Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Religious
10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Mithai Box Is Not Empty

Namrata Agarwal, Parvati Pillai

Summary

This delicious sweet picture book celebrates the joys (and rewards) of sharing. . . and delectable Indian desserts!

Ria wants to be the best chai party host to impress her grandparents, who are visiting all the way from India. She even shares her precious mithai box of her favorite sweet, motichoor laddoo, with the whole family. After all, her grandparents always taught her "Atithi devo bhava, like God we welcome our guests with warmth and respect."

Everyone loves the motichoor laddoo. And Ria is happy that everyone else is happy. But as the laddoo disappears, she worries that there will be none left for her. What good is being the best host if Ria doesn't get to have fun too?

But her grandmother has a surprise. . .one last motichoor laddoo!

Sharing has never been so sweet! *The Mithai Box Is Not Empty* celebrates the joys of generosity, but reminds us not to forget our own happiness. An author's note on mithais and a matching mithai game are included in the back of the book.

Contributor Bio

Namrata Agarwal has written for children's magazines, such as Faces (Cricket Media) and IntellyJelly. She is a member of SCBWI and CBI, and is the co-founder of KindMinds Critique Writing Group for children. Currently she lives in NJ with her two kids and husband.

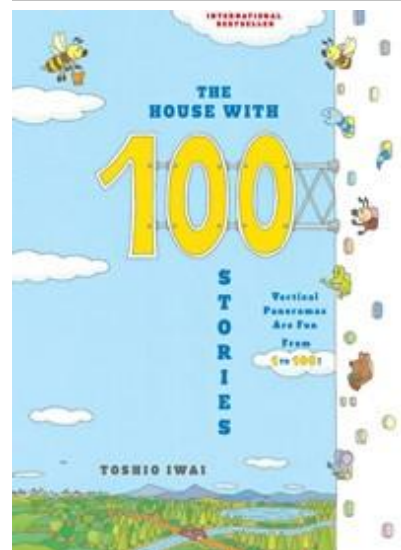
Author Residence: New Jersey

Author Hometown: India

Parvati Pillai is an illustrator and designer who has worked on everything from magazines to Disney books. She is the illustrator of *The Runaway Dosa* by Suma Subramaniam, *Bindu's Bindis* by Supriya Kelkar, and more.

Illustrator Residence:Finland

Illustrator Hometown:India



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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
11 in H | 8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The House with 100 Stories

Toshio Iwai

Summary

100 floors. 100 new friends. 100 stories. Open this book on its side to count and climb up, up, up. And discover what's at the top of this magical house. An international bestseller!

Tochi receives a mysterious invitation to the House with 100 Stories. On each floor, Tochi meets friendly animal neighbors--from squirrels working on their bonsai garden, bats taking baths on the ceiling ladybugs, frogs, and more.

"Every humorous page bursts with wonderfully specific details that beg for repeat examinations. An incredibly creative chronicle well worth the climb."—**Booklist**

"A well-imagined, wonder-filled world."—**Kirkus Reviews**

Readers should get a good giggle from how the snakes' house is built for slithering and how the lightly eerie bat house has everything upside down—including the toilet and bathtub."—**Publishers Weekly**

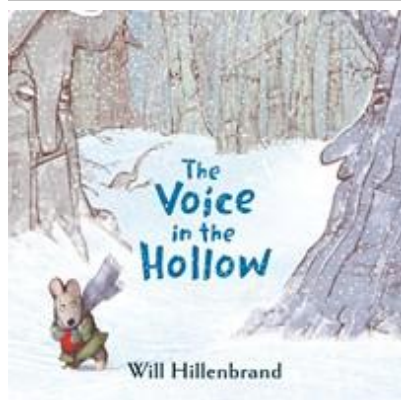
Where's Waldo? meets *I Spy* and *My Neighbor Totoro*! Readers will pore over in this highly detailed and adorably illustrated counting book. Each floor features its own mini story as the reader counts with Tochi from 1 to 100. Packed with fun, hidden details, young readers will discover something new with every read.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection
Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year

Contributor Bio

Toshio Iwai is a Japanese interactive media and installation artist who has also created a number of commercial video games. In addition he has worked in television, music performance, museum design and digital musical instrument design. Iwai graduated from the University of Tsukuba with a master's degree in Plastic Art and Mixed Media. His award-winning installations include *Time Stratum*, which won the Gold prize at the 1985 High Technology Art Exhibition in Shibuya Seibu, Tokyo, and *Time Stratum II* which was awarded the Grand Prize at the 17th Contemporary Japanese Art Exhibition, Meguro Art Museum, Tokyo. Iwai was an artist-in-Residence at the Exploratorium in San Francisco, California, Iwai's works *Well of Lights* and *Music Insects* are part of the Exploratorium's permanent collection.

Author Residence: Japan



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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Action &
Adventure

10 in H | 10 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Voice in the Hollow

Will Hillenbrand

Summary

A young mouse's shortcut home turns into a fantastical journey guided by a mysterious guardian in this wintery tale with a breath-taking double gatefold surprise.

When a blizzard closes the library early, Hubert decides to take a shortcut home through the spooky Hollow. Just as Hubert is gathering his nerve to press on, another mouse appears and offers to take his hand.

Together they journey through the snow, an ominous forest, over fallen trees traversing ravines, and over the mountains. Hidden in the terrain are scenes that evoke myths of the origins of Earth's mysterious features and nature's erratic behavior. In a stunning double gatefold sleeping bears spring to life, setting off a landslide and sending Hubert and his guardian running.

Just as Hubert is reaching his destination he turns to find his guide gone. Hubert races home to tell his family about his wild adventure through the Hollow.

In this winter tale, with a sparse text Will Hillenbrand crafts a new family favorite for settling down on snowy nights.

Winner of the Ohioana Book Award for Juvenile Literature

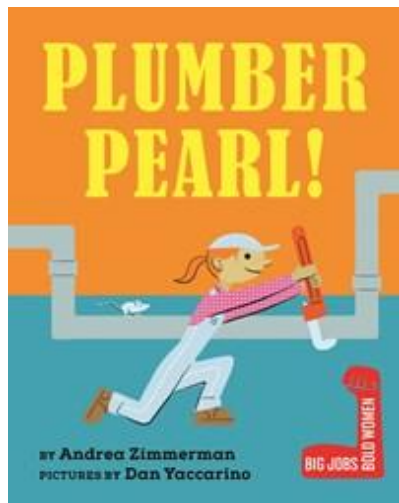
A Kirkus Reviews Best Picture Book of the Year

A BCCB Blue Ribbon Book!

Contributor Bio

Will Hillenbrand has written and illustrated a wide range of picture books for children, including the popular Bear and Mole books and the Mighty Reader series.. *Spring Is Here* won the Please Touch Museum Book Award. *What a Treasure!* a Pennsylvania One Book, was written with his spouse Jane Hillenbrand.

Author Residence: Cincinnati, OH



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On Sale Date: 9/16/2025
\$8.99
Board Book

28 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Business,
Careers, Occupations
Series: Big Jobs, Bold Women
6 in H | 4.8 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Plumber Pearl!

Andrea Zimmerman, Dan Yaccarino

Summary

Clang, clang, clang! Grrrrriind! When the pipes spring a leak, Plumber Pearl arrives to save the day! From the best-selling author and illustrator team of Trashy Town, comes a Big Jobs, Bold Women board book perfect for toddlers.

*Plumber Pearl just got a call.
"Our building has a waterfall!"
SSSShhhhhhh!*

Plumber Pearl comes in to fix their overflowing sinks, toilets, bathtubs, and pipes one floor at a time! Each floor has a problem that needs to be solved with her skills and tools. But where is this waterfall coming from?! Plumber Pearl is determined to find out with the help of squeaky mice and fun onomatopoeia on the way. The CHUG-A-GLUG of the pump and TWEEEEEEAK of the wrench will have toddlers giggling.

This is the third board book in the Big Jobs, Bold Women series that introduces toddlers to strong women in tough hands-on jobs. Plumber Pearl makes this empowering message accessible in a new durable format that is the perfect size for an energetic toddler.

With dynamic artwork from Dan Yaccarino, Nickelodeon character designer for The Backyardigans, and energetic verse from Andrea Zimmerman, best-selling author of Trashy Town, Plumber Pearl! is the perfect read for tool-obsessed kids.

Don't miss out on the Firefighter Flo! and Crane Jane! board books too!

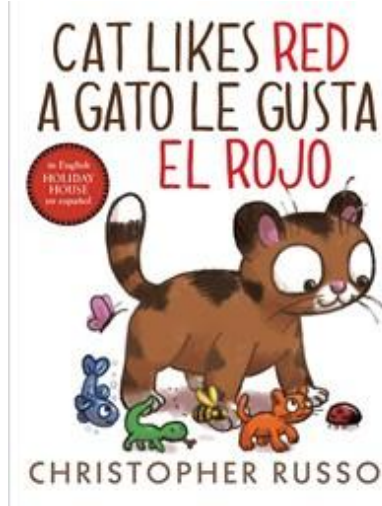
Contributor Bio

ANDREA ZIMMERMAN is the author of many beloved series including Trashy Town and Smashy Town, illustrated by Dan Yaccarino; the bestselling truck series Bulldozer Friends, Digger Man, Fire Engine Man, and Train Man; All Buckled Up and All Dressed Up (S&S/Little Simon); and Dig! illustrated by Marc Rosenthal. Andrea grew up in Ohio, Utah, New York, and California. She enjoys gardening, going for walks, and visiting museums.

Author Residence: Newtown, CT

DAN YACCARINO is an author-illustrator who been named to the Texas Bluebonnet list for The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau, Kirkus' Best Children's Book List for All the Way To America, The New York Times 10 Best Illustrated List and the Bologna Ragazzi for Every Friday. His picture book I Am a Story is a Junior Library Guild Selection and a Chicago Public Library Best Book of 2016. He's also the creator and producer of several animated series based on his books, Doug Unplugs (AppleTV), Oswald (Nickelodeon), Willa's Wild Life (NBC and Qubo), as well as the character designer behind The Backyardigans (Nickelodeon).

Illustrator Residence: Kearny, NJ



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On Sale Date: 11/11/2025
\$8.99
Board Book

28 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
6 in H | 4.6 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Cat Likes Red / A Gato le gusta el rojo

Christopher Russo

Summary

Cat learns about red, blue, and all the colors in between--and meets new friends along the way--in this adorable bilingual board book full of color vocabulary and feline fun!

Cat meets a red ladybug. Turn the page: Cat and Cat's new friend are outdoors in an all-red scene, chock full of details. Then, Cat meets more friends--including a green lizard, a blue fish, and a yellow bee.

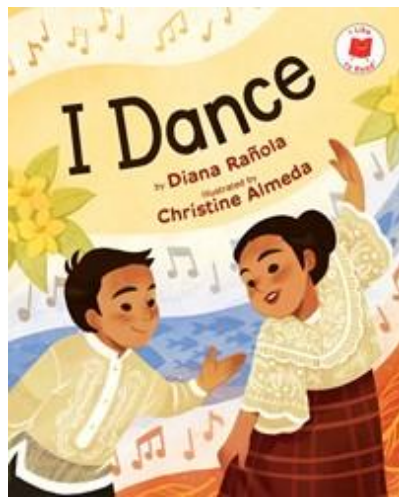
The simple, easy-to-read text appears in English and Spanish side by side and pairs perfectly with artist Christopher Russo's colorful, detailed, and adorable illustrations.

Contributor Bio

Christopher Russo has participated in juried exhibitions including MoCCA (Museum of Comics and Cartoon Art) Fest, RIPE (Rhode Island Print Expo), and MICE (Massachusetts Independent Comics Expo), where he has exhibited and sold original comics, prints, posters, and merchandise. He has created black and white interior illustrations for two novels, *The Naked Mole Rat Chronicles* by Mary Amato and *Kevin Keeps Up* by Ann Whitehead Nagda. Christopher holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Design Communications from Pratt Institute.

Author Residence: Brooklyn, NY

Author Hometown: Long Island, NY



I Dance

Diana Rañola, Christine Almeda

Summary

An easy-to-read book for girls and boys who love to dance. Perfect for kindergarten and first grade readers.

I dance with a hat.
I dance with a fan.
I dance like a duck.
I hop.

Fun pictures show dancers in authentic poses and beautiful costumes. Each illustration shows a traditional Philippine folk dance.

With simple text that is leveled by educational experts, kindergarteners and 1st graders can read this story on their own. Includes phonics features. Decodable words and sight words are listed in the book. This book is a Level C, for middle to late kindergarten.

The books in the award-winning I Like to Read® series build vocabulary and promote fluency, which are essential for reading success. Acclaimed author-illustrators—including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors—create original, high-quality books that are fun for kids to read again and again with their parents, teachers or on their own!

Contributor Bio

Diana Rañola was born in the Philippines and moved to the U.S. when she was 20 years old. She attended the De La Salle University in the Philippines where she completed her thesis on Singkil, a Philippine ethnic dance from the Maranao. Diana is a certified pilates instructor who also holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration (specializing in Financial Management and Public Finance) from New York University. She is a naturalized U.S. citizen and lives in Stamford, Connecticut.

Author Residence: Philippines

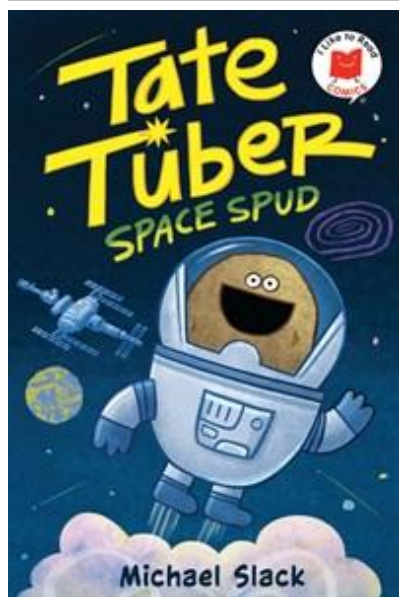
Author Hometown: Stamford, CT

Christine Almeda is a Filipino-American freelance illustrator & character designer from New Jersey. She grew up reading cozy books and filling countless sketchbooks with drawings. She later graduated from Montclair State University, earning a BFA in Animation & Illustration. Christine illustrates book jackets and picture books. She believes, through the power of creativity, art can make life more beautiful.

Illustrator Residence: New Jersey

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Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: I Like to Read
10 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



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Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: I Like to Read Comics
9 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Tate Tuber, Space Spud

Michael Slack

Summary

A funny sci fi comic that's just right for second and third graders!

Tate Tuber has always known he was destined for greatness. A couch potato? Not Tate—he's going to be an astronaut! So when Tate sees his chance to join space training, he literally jumps at the chance.

But on his first mission, Tate learns that his role doesn't include finding aliens or stopping asteroids. The human astronauts want to use Tate in a space farming experiment. How disappointing! But when the space station loses power and begins hurtling back towards earth, it's up to Tate to save the day with his ability to conduct electricity! Potato power!

In the back of the book are science facts about how potatoes really do conduct electricity, growing veggies in space, and more!

I Like to Read Comics® are perfect for kids who are challenged by or unengaged in reading, kids who love art, and the growing number of young comics fans. Filled with eye-catching art, humor, and terrific stories, these comics provide unique reading experiences for growing minds. I Like to Read Comics®, like their award-winning I Like to Read® counterpart, are created by celebrated artists and support reading comprehension to transform children into lifelong readers.

We hope that all new readers will say, "I like to read comics!"

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Series Overview: Comics-lovers can now share the fun with their kids, students, siblings, and younger friends who are learning to read!

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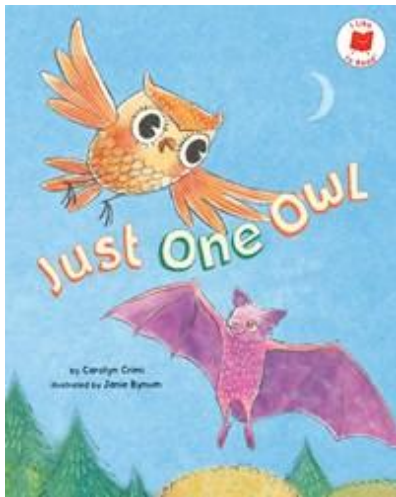
We hope that all new readers will say, "I like to read comics!"

Contributor Bio

Michael Slack has worked as an animator, character designer, illustrator, and author. He is a graduate of the San Francisco Art Institute. He is the author and illustrator of more than 40 picture books for kids. This includes the notable Kitties & Dinosaurs series. He's won some awards, including the Society of Illustrators Los Angeles Bronze Award in Children's Division and the Communication Arts Illustration Annual Award. He has made art for games like the best-selling Crocodile Creek Puzzles, and sometimes still does. He lives in San Francisco, California with his daughter, wife, and dog.

Author Residence: San Francisco, CA

Author Hometown: Sacramento, CA



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Hardcover

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Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: I Like to Read
10 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Just One Owl

Carolyn Crimi, Janie Bynum

Summary

An easy-to-read story about making friends. Perfect for kindergarteners and first-graders to read on their own.

Two squirrels. Two leaves. Two deer.

"One owl," said Owl.

Where is a friend to play with?

Owl searches the forest for a friend. But when an unlikely prospect shares its tree, Owl discovers his perfect companion--a bat! With endearing, kid-friendly illustrations that children will love!

With simple text that is leveled by educational experts, kindergarteners and 1st graders can read this story on their own. Includes phonics features. Decodable words and sight words are listed in the book.

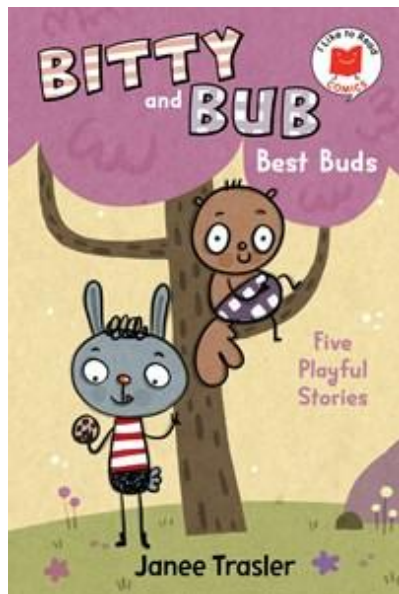
The books in the award-winning I Like to Read series build vocabulary and promote fluency, which are essential for reading success. Acclaimed author-illustrators--including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors--create original high-quality illustrations that support comprehension of simple text and are fun for kids to read again and again with their parents, teachers, or on their own!

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Carolyn Crimi received her MFA in Writing for Children from Vermont College in 2000. She has published over 20 books. Her book THERE MIGHT BE LOBSTERS won The Golden Kite Award in 2018 for Best Picture Book Text. Carolyn has received over thirty state awards and award nominations and was given The Prairie State Award in 2012 for her body of work. When she's not writing, Carolyn enjoys visiting elementary schools all around the world.

Janie Bynum, an author and illustrator, has created many lovable characters and stories for younger children. Her picture book OTIS was recognized as a Junior Library Guild Selection. Her most recent picture book, CHICK CHAT, was chosen to be included in the Literati Kids Book Club (literati.com) and has been published in four languages.



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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: I Like to Read Comics
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Bitty and Bub, Best Buds

Janee Trasler

Summary

Friendship is sweet—and awfully funny—in five giggle-worthy short comics for emerging readers starring an adorable squirrel and bunny.

Bitty and Bub find cookies! "Take one," the sign reads. But Bitty takes two! Bub's feelings are hurt... until Bitty reveals that the second one is meant for Bub. All good!

Bitty and Bub turn friendship's ups and downs into playful comedy in this sweet early reader comic by an award-winning artist. Split into short comics with spare text and charming art, each adventure (or misadventure) they go on has a funny happy ending.

The duo confuse a rock for a turtle, climb up a tree with no way to get down, and argue over whether something in the sky is a plane or bird—only to get a definitive answer by way of a *PLOP* of bird poop. Emerging readers will love the silly punchlines and feel confident reading this simple, decodable text on their own.

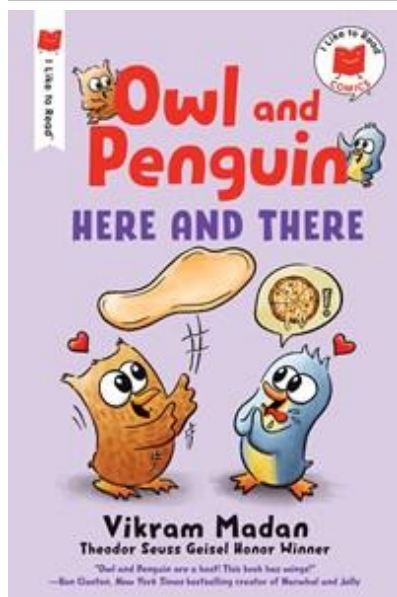
I Like to Read Comics® are perfect for kids who are challenged by or unengaged in reading, kids who love art, and the growing number of young comics fans. Filled with eye-catching art, humor, and terrific stories, these comics provide unique reading experiences for growing minds. Like their award-winning I Like to Read® counterparts, these books are created by celebrated artists and support reading comprehension to transform children into lifelong readers.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Janee Trasler is a professional puppeteer and singer, as well as an award-winning author and illustrator of many published books. Her early reader series FROG AND DOG won the National Cartoonists Society's 2021 Award for Best Illustration; her other titles include the six-book CHICKIES board book series; MIMI AND BEAR IN THE SNOW and MIMI AND BEAR MAKE A FRIEND; BENNY'S CHOCOLATE BUNNY; CAVEMAN: A B. C. STORY; GHOST GETS DRESSED and GHOST EATS IT ALL. You can read more about Janee's books at trasler.com.

Author Residence: Texas



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Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: I Like to Read Comics
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Owl and Penguin: Here and There

Vikram Madan

Summary

Two feathered friends are Frog and Toad for the emoji generation in this delightful graphic novel series for emerging readers by a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor winner.

Owl and Penguin want to make a pizza. But they can't agree on how to toss the dough. Owl can do it better . . . no, Penguin can do it best! Hmmm, maybe they should just get takeout.

Sometimes friends disagree. Though Owl and Penguin are opposites, they like to solve their conflicts with creative play. From making snow creatures to hiking a mountain, there's nothing these pals can't get through together.

In three nearly wordless stories, expressive art leads the storytelling, supplemented by simple text captions and emoticon-style images in speech bubbles. This innovative format supports visual literacy and sight word recognition for the earliest independent readers. With warm humor and a joyful palette, it's perfect for kids to giggle over on their own.

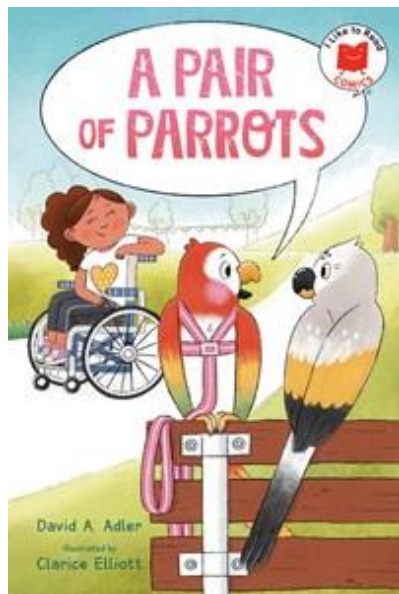
I Like to Read® Comics are perfect for kids who are challenged by or unengaged in reading, kids who love art, and the growing number of young comics fans. Filled with eye-catching art, humor, and terrific stories, these comics provide unique reading experiences for growing minds. Like their award-winning I Like to Read® counterparts, these books are created by celebrated artists and support reading comprehension to transform children into lifelong readers.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Vikram Madan grew up in India, where he wanted to be a cartoonist, but ended up an engineer. After many years in the tech industry, he came to his senses and followed his heart into storytelling. He is the author/illustrator of Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor book *Owl and Penguin*, *Owl and Penguin: Best Day Ever*, and the graphic novel in rhyme series *Zooni Tales*, which were all Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selections. Vikram lives in Seattle. Visit him online at vikrammadan.com and [@artbyvikram](https://twitter.com/artbyvikram).

Author Residence: Bellevue, WA



Holiday House
9780823461745
Pub Date: 12/2/2025
On Sale Date: 12/2/2025
\$7.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: I Like to Read Comics
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

A Pair of Parrots

David A. Adler, Clarice Elliott

Summary

When Ava's new parrot flies the coop, can she fix this fowl situation? Find out in this comical caper perfect for introducing the concept of multiples, pairs, and trios to early readers.

There's only one problem with this perfect new parrot: it's not in its cage! To keep this problem from flying out of their control, Ava and her mother will need to find a mathematical solution—it's time to pair up. As Ava wheels her chair after her feathered friend who has flown the coop, she discovers she's found something, too: a group of new friends and a hilarious adventure.

Geisel Award winning author David A. Adler matches fun antics with an educational bent, introducing literacy skills and early math concepts through an eye-catching, accessible early reader format.

Comics-lovers can now share the fun with their kids, students, siblings, and younger friends who are learning to read!

I Like to Read® Comics are perfect for kids who are challenged by or unengaged in reading, kids who love art, and the growing number of young comics fans. Filled with eye-catching art, humor, and terrific stories, these comics provide unique reading experiences for growing minds.

I Like to Read® Comics, like their award-winning **I Like to Read®** counterpart, are created by celebrated artists and support reading comprehension to transform children into lifelong readers.

We hope that all new readers will say, "I like to read comics!"

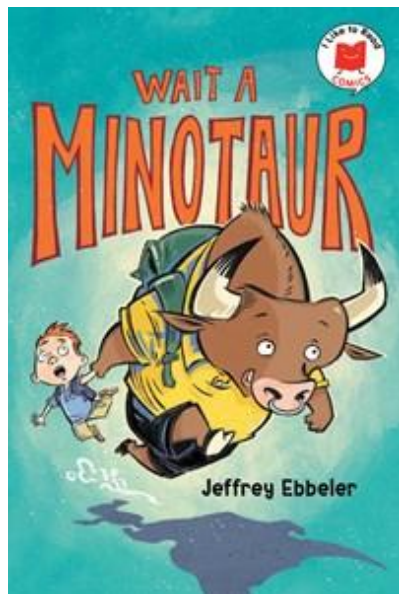
Contributor Bio

David A. Adler is a former math teacher and author of more than two hundred books for children. He has collaborated on several science picture books with Anna Raff, including *Light Waves* and *Magnets Push, Magnets Pull*, both named finalists for the AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence in Science Books. He is also the author of the Picture Book Biography series and the Cam Jansen mystery series. He lives in New York.

Author Residence: Long Island, NY

Clarice Elliott is a Texas-based illustrator and works part time in an elementary school library. This is her first book she has illustrated for children. She lives in Pasadena, Texas.

Illustrator Residence: Pasadena, TX



Holiday House
9780823461752
Pub Date: 12/2/2025
On Sale Date: 12/2/2025
\$7.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: I Like to Read Comics
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Wait a Minotaur

Jeffrey Ebbeler

Summary

When his new school hallways start to feel like a labyrinth, how will Gus the minotaur and his human pal Nick stay calm and find their way to the correct classroom? Find out in this action-packed early reader from comics artist Jeffrey Ebbeler.

It's Nick's first day at a new school! As he walks in, he meets an easily excitable and impatient minotaur named Gus. It's Gus' first day, too—so he grabs Nick's hand and charges straight into the building. There's so much to see and do! They dance along with band practice, bounce around the school gym, end up in the boiler room, and. . . okay. They're lost.

They may not know where to go, but they know what to do: wait a minute, calm down, and retrace their steps so they can find their classroom. Young comics readers are sure to resonate with comics illustrator Jeffrey Ebbeler's hilarious, slapstick take on a common coming-of-age experience—and parents will love the subtle lessons of patience and critical thinking.

Comics-lovers can now share the fun with their kids, students, siblings, and younger friends who are learning to read!

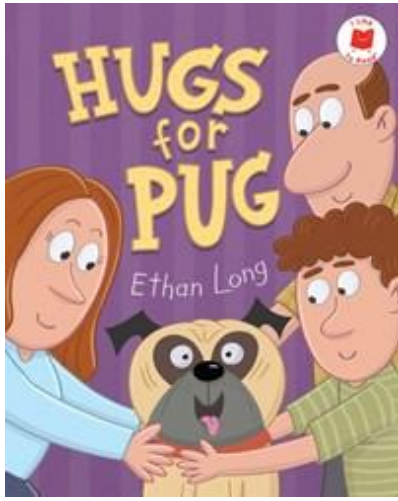
I Like to Read® Comics are perfect for kids who are challenged by or unengaged in reading, kids who love art, and the growing number of young comics fans. Filled with eye-catching art, humor, and terrific stories, these comics provide unique reading experiences for growing minds.

Like their award-winning **I Like to Read®** counterpart, **I Like to Read® Comics** are created by celebrated artists and support reading comprehension to transform children into lifelong readers.

Contributor Bio

Jeffrey Ebbeler has worked as an art director, book designer, and illustrator. He is a graduate of the Art Academy of Cincinnati. After college he worked for a puppet theater sculpting marionettes and performing. He has since become a full-time freelance illustrator and has illustrated over 40 children's books, including *One Is a Feast for Mouse*; *Cinco de Mouse O!*; *Haunted House*, *Haunted Mouse*; and *Snow Day for Mouse*, all by Judy Cox. He has also written and illustrated *I'm Ogre It*, *A Giant Mess*, *Kraken Me Up*, which was named a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection.

Author Residence: Cincinnati, Ohio



Holiday House
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On Sale Date: 12/2/2025
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: I Like to Read
10 in H | 8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Hugs for Pug

Ethan Long

Summary

Meet Pug! He's energetic, excitable, and eager for his next adventure in this Guided Reading Level C story, perfect for beginning readers to read on their own.

Yap! Yap! Yap! Welcome to Pug's world—where simple text meets adorable artwork, and young readers meet their new best friend.

For readers who have mastered basic sight words, Level C books feature slightly longer sentences and a wider range of high-frequency words than Level B books. Level C books are suitable for mid-to-late kindergarten readers. When Level C is mastered, follow up with Level D.

The award-winning **I Like to Read®** series focuses on guided reading levels A through G, based upon Fountas and Pinnell standards. Acclaimed author-illustrators—including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors—create original, high quality illustrations that support comprehension of simple text and are fun for kids to read with parents, teachers, or on their own!

Series Overview: The books in the award-winning **I Like to Read®** series are especially created for new readers and are leveled using Fountas & Pinnell standards. Acclaimed author-illustrators—including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors—create original, high-quality illustrations that support comprehension of simple text and are fun for kids to read again and again with their parents, teachers, or on their own!

Contributor Bio

Ethan Long is an artist and animator who has written and illustrated dozens of children's books. His accolades include a Theodor Seuss Geisel Medal for *Up, Tall, and High!* and two daytime Emmy nominations for *Tasty Time With Ze Frank* and *Scribbles and Ink*. Ethan is the author-illustrator of the **I Like to Read®** Horse & Buggy series as well as *Hoggy Went-a-Courtin'* and *Hoggy at Bat*. He lives in Denver, CO.

Author Residence: Denver, Colorado



Holiday House
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On Sale Date: 12/2/2025
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: I Like to Read
9 in H | 8.8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

My Dog Is Best

David Catrow

Summary

An easy-to-read book about funny dogs and the kids who love them. Perfect for kindergarten and first grade readers. By the creator of a *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book.

My dog is the best.

She is brave.

My dog is the best.

He gives kisses.

The dogs in this story are small, tall, fast, and funny. They can hide, hug, sing, and surprise. Which dog is best? The one that belongs to YOU!

The pictures will make you laugh out loud!

With simple text, kindergarteners and 1st graders can read this story on their own.

Leveled by educational experts. Includes phonics features. Perfect for phonics practice of consonant blends.

The books in the award-winning I Like to Read® series build vocabulary and promote fluency, which are essential for reading success. Acclaimed author-illustrators--including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors—create original, high-quality books that are fun for kids to read again and again with their parents, teachers or on their own!

Series Overview: The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on kindergarten and early first grade reading levels. Acclaimed author-illustrators--including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors--create original, high quality illustrations that support comprehension of simple text and are fun for kids to read with parents, teachers, or on their own!

Contributor Bio

David Catrow has illustrated many bestselling books including *When God Made You* by Matthew Paul Turner, *I Like Myself!* by Karen Beaumont, and *Take Me Out of the Bathtub and Other Silly Dilly Songs* by Alan Katz. He received a New York Times Best Illustrated Award for *She's Wearing a Dead Bird on Her Head* by Kathryn Lasky and a Maryland Blue Crab Young Reader Award for *The Fly Flew In*, an I Like to Read Book both written and illustrated by David Catrow and published by Holiday House. Other books for Holiday House are *I Want an Apple* (written by David L. Harrison), and *Fun In the Sun*. Mr. Catrow also worked on the visual development for the animated feature Horton Hears a Who! He lives in Ohio. Learn more at catrow.com.

Author Residence: Ohio



Holiday House
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\$18.99
Hardcover

192 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Thrillers & Suspense

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Picasso Curse

Dan Gutman

Summary

What would happen if you accidentally bought a doodle worth millions? Edwin Hodge finds out in this middle grade novel by Dan Gutman, bestselling author of My Weird School series.

There were so many things Edwin Hodge didn't know when he paid \$10 for a cool poster of Kobe Bryant at the local flea market.

He didn't know that hidden within the frame of the poster was an original drawing by Pablo Picasso, one of the most famous artists in history. He didn't know the Picasso might be worth millions of dollars. He didn't know that kids at school were going to treat him differently, or that he would become a world famous social media superstar.

And he sure didn't know that people would tap his phone, follow him home, break into his house, or threaten to burn it down. He didn't know the Picasso was going to ruin his life.

Have you ever had to make a decision--a really hard decision? A decision that would change the course of your life from that moment on? Edwin is faced with lots of crucial decisions in this gripping adventure, a blend of fact and fiction by Dan Gutman, an author who says, "I want my readers to think that reading my books is like watching a movie. One where you never know what's going to happen next."

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Dan Gutman is the author of 180 books for young readers, including *Houdini and Me*, *The (Mostly) True Story of Cleopatra's Needle*, the My Weird School series, *The Genius Files*, and the Baseball Card Adventures series. Thanks to his many fans who voted in their classrooms, he has received nineteen state book awards and ninety-two state book award nominations. Dan lives with his wife Nina in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY



Holiday House
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\$18.99
Hardcover

272 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Confessions From the Group Chat

Jodi Meadows

Summary

What happens in the group chat stays in the group chat... until it doesn't.

Virginia Vaughn just wants to fit in with her super-popular friend group. That means she doesn't let them know how much she loves the library, she never speaks a word about her massive crush on tragically unpopular Grayson, and she says nasty things she doesn't actually mean. But only in the group chat, so it's harmless, right?

But when she has a blowout fight with her clique—specifically, with the Queen Bee herself—her mean texts are posted online for the *entire school* to see! And, suddenly, Virginia has no one but her cat to talk to.

Cue "Knight Errant," a mystery boy at school who texts Virginia by accident—and who quickly becomes her closest confidante. Though they send messages back and forth for hours every night, Virginia doesn't want him to know which classmate she is (because then he'll connect her to the mean texts ALL OVER THE INTERNET). She likes him, but she really likes Grayson, too. Can she find the strength to tell Knight who she really is? And will Grayson—who has become her only ally at school—give up on her when the awful things she's said about him are finally posted?

Confessions from the Group Chat is the second middle-grade romcom from *New York Times* bestselling author Jodi Meadow (BYE FOREVER, I GUESS; MY LADY JANE, now streaming on Prime). Sweet, funny, and authentically messy, this is an ultra-cute story about middle-school misbehavior, innocent first love, and the inner life of a repentant mean girl.

Contributor Bio

Jodi Meadows is the author of *Bye Forever, I Guess*; *Nightrender*; *Dawnbreaker*; the *Incarnate* and *Fallen Isles* trilogies; and is a coauthor of *New York Times* bestsellers *My Lady Jane* and *My Plain Jane*. You can visit her website at JodiMeadows.com, and connect with her on Instagram @unicornwarlord. She lives in rural Virginia.

Author Residence: Virginia



Holiday House
9780823459865
Pub Date: 10/14/2025
On Sale Date: 10/14/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

288 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Ivy and Forest Rewrite the World

Hannah West, Jen Bricking

Summary

Fairy tale heroes and fantasy villains chase one another across the multiverse in this clever middle grade debut that sparkles with bookish magic and quick-witted humor.

Ivy is an isolated, daydreaming girl in the “real” world. Forest is a scrawny, unlikely hero in Ivy’s “pretend” story.

Never the two shall meet . . . until Forest unexpectedly walks through a portal and finds himself in Ivy’s queendom. All Forest wants to do is talk to the author of his story about a few edits to his character arc—he has *no idea* what kind of narrative stakes he is up against.

As soon as Ivy and Forest try to rewrite Forest’s story, the pair gets caught in an evil wizard’s plot for world domination. They must travel through the multiverse of Ivy’s imagination—along with a mishmash cast of abandoned characters, including junior superheroes, an intrepid Victorian girl detective, and even a rough draft version of Forest himself—to foil their dastardly foe. If they don’t succeed in their heroic quest, each and every world (possibly even Ivy’s own!) could be obliterated with just two short words: “*The End.*”

Each story splinters into the next in this brilliant spin on classic storytelling tropes that celebrates the power of imagination and creativity during uncertain times. Bursting with energy, Hannah West makes a fresh middle grade debut that is perfect for bookworms and kids with big imaginations. Features spot illustrations and a map of Ivy’s multiverse destinations.

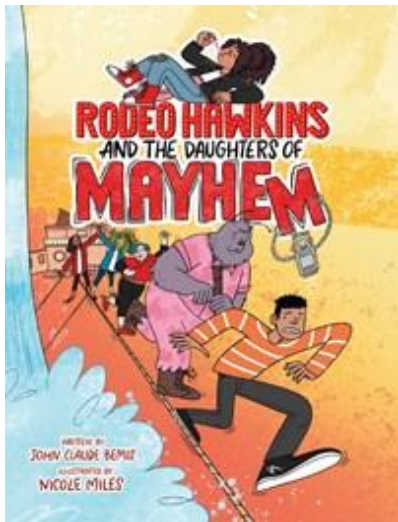
Contributor Bio

Hannah West is an author of young adult novels, including the Nissera Chronicles series and *The Bitterwine Oath*. Her YA debut, *Kingdom of Ash and Briars*, received a starred review from *Kirkus Reviews* and was named a *Kirkus* Best Book of the Year. She is a professional copywriter by day and a nature-loving sweets enthusiast around the clock. She lives in the Dallas area with her husband and son, along with their rambunctious rescue pets. Learn more about her books at hannahwestauthor.com.

Author Residence: Garland, TX

Jennifer Bricking is a video game concept artist and the illustrator of children’s books, including *The Memory Cake*, by Caroline Perry, and *Jackie and the Mona Lisa*, by Debbie Robin Murphy. She currently lives in Seattle, where she likes to ride her bike, skateboard, and explore the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Find her at @jenbricking.

Illustrator Residence: Seattle, WA



Holiday House
9780823461981
Pub Date: 10/7/2025
On Sale Date: 10/7/2025
\$14.99
Trade Paperback

272 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
8.3 in H | 6.3 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Rodeo Hawkins and the Daughters of Mayhem

John Claude Bemis, Nicole Miles

Summary

Foster kid Sidney Poblocki is thrilled to learn his destiny is to save the multiverse—until he discovers it's actually his destiny to destroy it—in this fantasy adventure graphic novel!

Get ready for Mayhem!

When Sidney Poblocki runs away from his troubled home life, he winds up in a whole new world of trouble. Why are interdimensional assassins after him along with every other kid named Sidney Poblocki throughout the multiverse? Will he ever see his best bud Walt again now that Walt's memory of Sidney has been erased? And what the heck is the deal with Rodeo Hawkins and her ragtag gang of mischief-making girls the Daughters of Mayhem?!

They claim they're trying to keep him safe, but Sidney isn't so certain "safe" is even in their vocabulary. As Sidney is swept into a series of misadventures that will change the multiverse forever, one thing is for certain: with Rodeo Hawkins around, his life is about to be filled with a lot more mayhem.

Contributor Bio

An inspiring speaker and entertaining performer, John Claude Bemis is the author of *The Wooden Prince*, *Lord of Monsters*, the Clockwork Dark trilogy, *The Prince Who Fell from the Sky*, and *Flora and the Runaway Rooster*. His upcoming graphic novel series *The Daughters of Mayhem* will be released in 2025. He received the Excellence in Teaching Award from UNC Chapel Hill's School of Education for his work in the schools as an author-educator and served as North Carolina's Piedmont Laureate. John lives with his wife and daughter in Hillsborough, NC.

Author Residence: Hillsborough, NC

Nicole Miles has worked with a variety of clients including Adobe, BuzzFeed, Candlewick Press, Google, the New York Times, Penguin Random House, Rebel Girls, Simon & Schuster, and Sisters Letter (AARP). Her comic *Barbara* (ShortBox, 2017) was nominated for an Eisner award. She has been asked to speak to BA Hons Illustration students at Cardiff Metropolitan University (several times) as well as at the Afro Futures Un-conference (2019) in Birmingham. She has also been a Special Visiting Lecturer for Sheffield Hallam University where she gets great pleasure in doing occasional teaching sessions with first year illustration students.

Illustrator Residence: West Yorkshire, UK

Illustrator Hometown: The Bahamas



Holiday House
9780823457021
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On Sale Date: 9/2/2025
\$22.99
Hardcover

304 Pages
Ages 10 to 14, Grades 5 to 9
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels

8.5 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

First Kiss with Fangs

Marker Snyder

Summary

Thirteen-year-old Ivan is a tender-hearted vampire who prefers a plant-based diet. In his daydreams, he rejects his destiny and hangs out in the human world forever! But would it be worth it if it means hiding his truest self?

Born into a family of vampires, cheerful Ivan is a black sheep: he loves sunshine, his best friends are human, and he can't stomach the thought of eating meat.

So when Ivan's vampire fangs come in on his first day of eighth grade, he's determined to keep them a secret. He wants to stay in day school, with his sweet group of human BFFs, rather than transfer to night school with the rest of the teenage vampire crowd. Sure, that means he'll have to lie to everyone, but how hard can it be? He will just act normal.

Keeping his secret gets much harder when Ivan is assigned a new lab partner: transfer student Damien. Around him, Ivan acts anything but normal. He's fainting and fumbling and *far* from blending in. Ivan even finds himself thinking about blood and heartbeats and vampire kisses . . . All. Day. Long.

Is it safe to spend time with humans, or is Ivan turning into a bloodthirsty vampire against his wishes? He always thought he would do anything to stay in the human world, but maybe it's too dangerous to keep pretending. . . .

Fans of *Fake Blood* will sink their teeth into this graphic novel that's perfect for readers navigating first crushes, unpredictable emotions, and the perils of middle school. Featuring LGBTQ+ characters and a unique, homespun art style, Snyder's debut is fang-tastic.

Contributor Bio

Marker Snyder is an illustrator, designer, and graphic artist currently based in Kingston, NY, where he lives in a rainbow house with his husband, two cats, and a very friendly turtle. Formerly a curator and exhibition designer in NYC, he now works primarily on developing illustrated projects for kids—from picture books through middle grade. Visit him online at www.drawingwithmarker.com

Author Residence: Kingston, NY



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\$10.99
Trade Paperback

304 Pages
Ages 10 to 14, Grades 5 to 9
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Bye Forever, I Guess

Jodi Meadows

Summary

Can a guarded gamer girl lower her shield for a new friend... or more-than-friend?

"EARNEST AND LAUGH-OUT-LOUD... PITCH PERFECT."—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

Thirteen-year-old Ingrid's been living a double life. At school, she's the Girl With Dead Parents, her popular friend Rachel's charity case. Online, things are different: she crushes it in her favorite MMORPG, geeks out in her favorite fantasy fandom, and runs a popular social media account. If only real life were that easy.

But when Ingrid finally stands up to Rachel and "starts drama," it suddenly feels like she has no life at *all* . . . and nowhere to sit at lunch.

Until she gets a supersweet wrong-number text from a mystery boy at her school, and everything starts to go right. Spending time together playing Ancient Tomes Online as "Stitches" and "Traveler" makes her feel like she's really *connecting* with someone. But when she begins to suspect that Traveler may be a popular classmate who is WAY above her in the cool-kid food chain—and whose original text was actually intended for *Rachel*—she faces a difficult choice. Can they be friends IRL? She *wants* to open up, but getting close to people has hurt her before.

Is making real friends only fantasy after all?

Bye Forever, I Guess is the fresh, funny, and deeply sweet middle-grade debut of *New York Times* bestselling author Jodi Meadows (MY LADY JANE). Speaking to the messiness of middle-school friendships (and first loves), this is a warm, witty, enormously entertaining book—and a love letter to geek culture, gaming, and the healing power of fantasy.

"HILARIOUS... Charming, funny, and endearing."—*Kirkus Reviews*

"The most DELIGHTFUL middle-grade romcom I've ever read!"—Ellen Oh, award-winning author of *Finding Junie Kim*

Contributor Bio

Jodi Meadows is the author of *Nightrender*, *Dawnbreaker*, the Incarnate and Fallen Isles trilogies, and is a coauthor of *New York Times* bestsellers *My Lady Jane* and *My Plain Jane*. You can visit her website at JodiMeadows.com, and connect with her on Instagram @unicornwarlord. She lives in rural Virginia.

Author Residence: Virginia



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\$10.99
Trade Paperback

272 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Stories In Verse
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Ruptured

Joanne Rossmassler Fritz

Summary

The sensitive, suspenseful story of a family coping with a life-changing tragedy, told in stunning verse.

Is it wrong to grieve for someone who is still alive?

Claire's mom and dad don't talk to each other much anymore. And they definitely don't laugh or dance the way they used to. Their tense, stilted stand offs leave thirteen-year-old Claire, an only child, caught in the middle. So when the family takes their annual summer vacation, Claire sticks her nose in a book and hopes for the best. Maybe the sunshine and ocean breeze will fix what's gone wrong.

But while the family is away, Claire's mother has a ruptured brain aneurysm—right after she reveals a huge secret to Claire. Though she survives the rupture, it seems like she is an entirely different person. Claire has no idea if her mom meant what she said, or if she even remembers saying it. With the weight of her mom's confession on her shoulders, Claire must navigate fear, grief, and prospects for recovery.

Will her mom ever be the same? Will her parents stay together? And if the answer to either question is yes, how will Claire learn to live with what she knows? This beautifully written novel speaks to kids' fears and credits their strength, and stems from the author's incredible experience surviving two ruptured aneurysms.

An NCTE Notable Verse Novel

A Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year

Contributor Bio

Joanne Rossmassler Fritz is the author of *Everywhere Blue*, which was an NCTE Notable Verse Novel, a Mighty Girl Best Book of the Year, a Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year, and the Cybils Award Poetry Winner. She's been writing for most of her life, but didn't get serious about it until after she survived the first of two brain aneurysm ruptures. Joanne and her husband live in southeastern Pennsylvania, and are the parents of two grown sons. You can visit her at www.joannerossmasslerfritz.com.

Author Residence: West Chester, PA

Author Hometown: Philadelphia, PA



Holiday House
9780823461806
Pub Date: 9/2/2025
On Sale Date: 9/2/2025
\$10.99
Trade Paperback

224 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Historical
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The (Mostly) True Story of Cleopatra's Needle

Dan Gutman

Summary

From the author of the *My Weird School* books, an adventure story that spans centuries and continents.

In Central Park, New York, stands Cleopatra's Needle. But what do you know about? Did you know that thousands of people worked in 1461 BCE to build it? Then hundreds more moved it, and erected it in Alexandria, where it stood for 3,000 years? So how did a monolith weighing over 200 tons get moved all the way to New York City—and in the 19th Century, no less?

In this historical fiction account by bestselling author Dan Gutman, five kids who watched the Needle at each phase of its history recount the daring story of how something that seemed to be impossible –and that nearly ended in disaster—finally succeeded against all odds.

Including photos, diagrams, and illustrations, this book will leave history lovers and fans of problem solving astounded at all that was accomplished. And best of all, it will leave middle grade readers feeling they've just watched a really good movie—they'll hardly even realize they were reading.

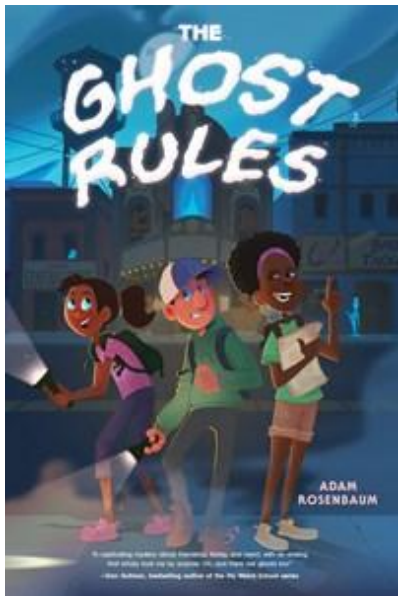
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Dan Gutman grew up in New Jersey loving sports, which inspired him as an adult to write his baseball card book series, that begins with *Honus & Me*, which was nominated for eleven state awards and adapted for television. Other titles of his include the *My Weird School* series, *The Homework Machine*, *The Genius Files* series, *The Kid Who Ran for President*, and Holiday House's own *Houdini and Me*. He lives with his wife in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Author Hometown: New Jersey



The Ghost Rules

Adam Rosenbaum

Summary

Twelve-year-old Elwood McGee never asked to have “ghost-sight,” and it involves a lot more drool-dodging than he expected. Ghosts are the WORST—and they're all over the place in this sharp-witted middle grade debut novel.

Did you know that ghosts love coffee? They’re not trying to be scary. They’re just deprived of an appropriate amount of caffeine! They also bump into things by accident, are occasionally nosy, and get a little nervous when they’re seen by the living.

Elwood McGee knows these ghost facts because he’s one of those rare people with the gift of ghost-sight. And it turns out ghosts are *everywhere*! Especially in the small Tennessee town where Elwood and his family had to move following the death of his big brother Noah, which Elwood thinks was his fault.

Once Elwood figures out he can see ghosts, he becomes single-mindedly determined to use his powers to see Noah and talk to him once last time. With the help of two girls who live on his street, Elwood embarks on a journey through the surprisingly funny world of ghosts and faces the realities of letting go.

At once hilarious and heart wrenching, Adam Rosenbaum makes his middle grade debut with a supernaturalish novel about grief that’s perfect for fans of Gordon Korman and Dan Gutman.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

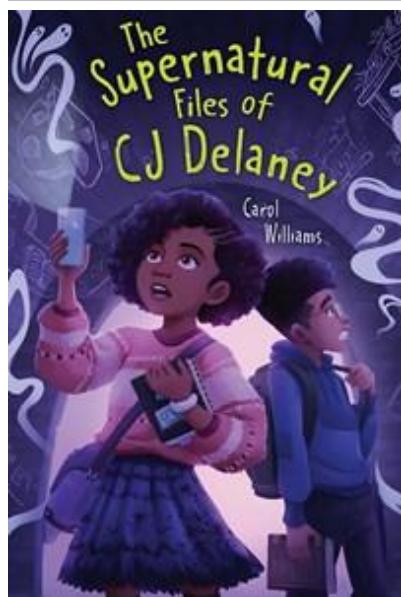
Adam Rosenbaum has operated a sawmill in Kentucky, stocked groceries in Los Angeles, and was a student draftsman at his local power company growing up in the suburbs of Nashville. He’s spent the last fifteen years in video production and digital media in Middle Tennessee, where he lives with his wife and four kids. When he’s not writing things or reading things, you’ll probably find him running down a trail or trying to track down the perfect blueberry donut. *The Ghost Rules* is his debut novel.

Author Residence: Nashville, TN

Author Hometown: Tennessee

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224 Pages
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Juvenile Fiction / Paranormal,
Occult & Supernatural
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



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240 Pages
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Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &
Detective Stories
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Supernatural Files of CJ Delaney

Carol Williams

Summary

Ghost dogs, strange symbols, missing livestock . . . kid reporter CJ Delaney's summer vacation just got weird.

When a boring old skatepark opening becomes the scene of a something *truly* strange, CJ Delaney can't believe her luck. This is just the kind of big story she's dreamed of breaking for the town's local paper.

With best friend Parker in tow, CJ is determined to get to the bottom of everything and save the town from evil. Isn't this what summer vacation is for? But when all answers point to someone close, CJ stands not only to lose her byline but the scariest thing of all—the people and pet she loves.

With a strong, snappy voice and a warm sense of humor, *The Supernatural Files of CJ Delaney* is a fast-paced middle grade mystery (with just the right amount of hair-raising thrills) that begs to be read cover-to-cover in one sitting. This debut from Carol Williams shines with love for its characters, college-town setting, and belief in the power of the written word.

Contributor Bio

Carol Williams has a long history of writing: ad agency copywriter, healthcare content wordsmith, insurance marketing scribe—you name it, she's written a ton of it. She's also managed to raise two children, creating lots of her own stories for kids along the way. Carol lives in Ohio with her husband and maybe a dog if she can ever talk said husband into it. *The Supernatural Files of CJ Delaney* is her debut.

Author Residence: Liberty Township, Ohio



Bird Nerd

Jennifer Ann Richter

Summary

Nyla sets out to win her school's bird watching competition, while balancing old friends with new in this heartfelt debut.

Nyla Braun has always been called a nerd at her Philadelphia school. But that hasn't stopped her from pursuing her nerdy hobbies, especially when she has best friend Tasha by her side. When a birding tournament between Nyla's class and a class from a suburban school is announced, Nyla sees her chance to get the respect she deserves. If they win, that is. The Burb Birders will be tough competition.

With the contest underway, Nyla soon catches the attention of the most popular girl in class, who also wants to win, setting off a chain of small disasters as Nyla tries to balance old friends and new and the pressure to be cool when you really just want to be yourself.

Told with warmth and gentle humor, debut author Jennifer Ann Richter's *Bird Nerd* combines a deep love of nature and birding with the story of a young girl learning to discover her own confidence and values.

Contributor Bio

Jennifer Ann Richter has been an active SCBWI member since 2015 and has published short stories and poetry for both children and adults. Her YA story "Partings" won honorable mention in the 2020 Writer's Digest Annual Writing Competition. Her historical poem "The Books of Timbuktu" appeared in the February 2022 issue of Cricket magazine. *Bird Nerd* is her debut. She lives in Delaware.

Author Residence: Milford, DE

Author Hometown: Philadelphia, PA

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\$10.99
Trade Paperback

240 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



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\$12.99
Trade Paperback

304 Pages
Ages 10 to 14, Grades 5 to 9
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels

8.5 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

First Kiss with Fangs

Marker Snyder

Summary

Thirteen-year-old Ivan is a tender-hearted vampire who prefers a plant-based diet. In his daydreams, he rejects his destiny and hangs out in the human world forever! But would it be worth it if it means hiding his truest self?

Born into a family of vampires, cheerful Ivan is a black sheep: he loves sunshine, his best friends are human, and he can't stomach the thought of eating meat.

So when Ivan's vampire fangs come in on his first day of eighth grade, he's determined to keep them a secret. He wants to stay in day school, with his sweet group of human BFFs, rather than transfer to night school with the rest of the teenage vampire crowd. Sure, that means he'll have to lie to everyone, but how hard can it be? He will just act normal.

Keeping his secret gets much harder when Ivan is assigned a new lab partner: transfer student Damien. Around him, Ivan acts anything but normal. He's fainting and fumbling and *far* from blending in. Ivan even finds himself thinking about blood and heartbeats and vampire kisses . . . All. Day. Long.

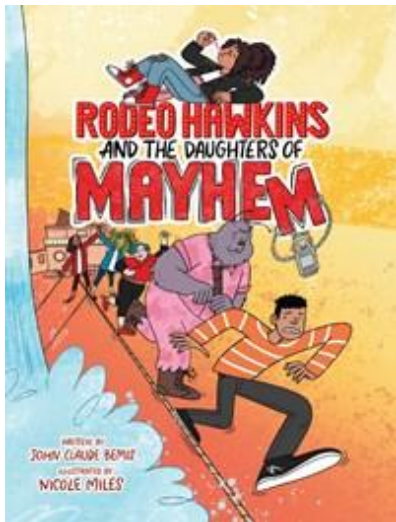
Is it safe to spend time with humans, or is Ivan turning into a bloodthirsty vampire against his wishes? He always thought he would do anything to stay in the human world, but maybe it's too dangerous to keep pretending. . . .

Fans of *Fake Blood* will sink their teeth into this graphic novel that's perfect for readers navigating first crushes, unpredictable emotions, and the perils of middle school. Featuring LGBTQ+ characters and a unique, homespun art style, Snyder's debut is fang-tastic.

Contributor Bio

Marker Snyder is an illustrator, designer, and graphic artist currently based in Kingston, NY, where he lives in a rainbow house with his husband, two cats, and a very friendly turtle. Formerly a curator and exhibition designer in NYC, he now works primarily on developing illustrated projects for kids—from picture books through middle grade. Visit him online at www.drawingwithmarker.com

Author Residence: Kingston, NY



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Hardcover

272 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
8.3 in H | 6.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Rodeo Hawkins and the Daughters of Mayhem

John Claude Bemis, Nicole Miles

Summary

Foster kid Sidney Poblocki is thrilled to learn his destiny is to save the multiverse—until he discovers it's actually his destiny to destroy it—in this fantasy adventure graphic novel!

Get ready for Mayhem!

When Sidney Poblocki runs away from his troubled home life, he winds up in a whole new world of trouble. Why are interdimensional assassins after him along with every other kid named Sidney Poblocki throughout the multiverse? Will he ever see his best bud Walt again now that Walt's memory of Sidney has been erased? And what the heck is the deal with Rodeo Hawkins and her ragtag gang of mischief-making girls the Daughters of Mayhem?!

They claim they're trying to keep him safe, but Sidney isn't so certain "safe" is even in their vocabulary. As Sidney is swept into a series of misadventures that will change the multiverse forever, one thing is for certain: with Rodeo Hawkins around, his life is about to be filled with a lot more mayhem.

Contributor Bio

An inspiring speaker and entertaining performer, John Claude Bemis is the author of *The Wooden Prince*, *Lord of Monsters*, the Clockwork Dark trilogy, *The Prince Who Fell from the Sky*, and *Flora and the Runaway Rooster*. His upcoming graphic novel series *The Daughters of Mayhem* will be released in 2025. He received the Excellence in Teaching Award from UNC Chapel Hill's School of Education for his work in the schools as an author-educator and served as North Carolina's Piedmont Laureate. John lives with his wife and daughter in Hillsborough, NC.

Author Residence: Hillsborough, NC

Nicole Miles has worked with a variety of clients including Adobe, BuzzFeed, Candlewick Press, Google, the New York Times, Penguin Random House, Rebel Girls, Simon & Schuster, and Sisters Letter (AARP). Her comic *Barbara* (ShortBox, 2017) was nominated for an Eisner award. She has been asked to speak to BA Hons Illustration students at Cardiff Metropolitan University (several times) as well as at the Afro Futures Un-conference (2019) in Birmingham. She has also been a Special Visiting Lecturer for Sheffield Hallam University where she gets great pleasure in doing occasional teaching sessions with first year illustration students.

Illustrator Residence: West Yorkshire, UK

Illustrator Hometown: The Bahamas

Where No Shadow Stays

Sara Hashem

Summary

A homecoming queen and a bad-boy loner team up to break a generational curse in this YA supernatural horror from a talented American Egyptian voice.

Seventeen-year-old Mina is always focused on what comes next: exams, school dances, opportunities for a picnic by the lake. Filling up the future keeps her from lingering over how little she knows about her history or where she comes from. Anytime she asks her father questions about Egypt--or about her mother's mysterious death--he struggles to open up.

When Mina receives an invitation from an aunt she's never met to visit the Haikal mansion, her mother's childhood home in El Agamy, Mina accepts. She can't resist the chance to learn more about her roots or what happened to her mother, even if it means lying to her loves ones for the first time in her life.

But when Mina returns from El Agamy, she doesn't come back alone.

A sinister entity follows Mina from the Haikal mansion to her tiny California town. Mina is forced to abandon her friends, her father, and everything she loves in order to prevent the entity from violently possessing them. Isolated and fighting for her life, Mina must seek help from an unlikely ally: Jesse Talbot, the mortician's hostile son and the only person who proves immune to possession. Jesse would rather floss with barbed wire than team up with social butterfly Mina, but he doesn't exactly have a choice—after all, he's running from family secrets of his own.

As Mina and Jesse dig deeper into Mina's family lore, they uncover a bloody debt that must be satisfied if Mina wants to finish senior year alive.

Contributor Bio

Sara Hashem is an American-Egyptian writer from Southern California, where she spent many sunny days holed up indoors with a book. Her love for fantasy and magical realms emerged during the two years her family lived in Egypt. Her debut novel, *The Jasad Heir*, the first installment in her Egyptian-inspired adult fantasy duology *The Scorched Throne*, has received many accolades since its publication, including a starred review from *Publishers Weekly*. *Where No Shadow Stays* is Sara's YA debut.

Author Residence: Sacramento, CA

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Suspense

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Hardcover

352 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Horror
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

This Raging Sea

De Elizabeth

Summary

18-year-old Briar Winters must untangle the horrifying eldritch secrets of her picture-perfect coastal town in order to save the boy she loves after he disappears from time itself in this YA dark fantasy for fans of *Bly Manor*.

Historic Loch Creek is a witchy New England tourist trap—but it's just a trap for Briar, who's convinced she'll die there among the waves that devoured her twin brother thirteen years ago. But when her best friend who she's loved since childhood, Finn, vanishes from the seaside carnival, there's only one person who can help Briar find him: Morgan, her biggest enemy who knows her darkest secret.

As Briar uncovers hidden truths as deep and dark as the water that haunts her, it quickly becomes clear that Finn has gone much further than anyone could have imagined. He's lost in time, and neither of them are safe. If Briar and Finn look too hard, they might find terrifying answers—not just about what's buried beneath the shores, but also the threads tying them to each other. As past and future collide, the seductive yet evil underwater entity that intends to claim Briar still needs its sacrifice . . .

And it's too hungry to go unsated.

Equal parts epic bisexual romance and pulse-pounding horror, *This Raging Sea* is a dual POV dark fantasy as sweepingly powerful as the ocean that threatens to consume everything and everyone Briar has ever loved—prepare to be devoured.

Contributor Bio

De Elizabeth (she/her) is a horror and dark fantasy author writing haunted, romantic books. She is passionate about telling emotionally resonant dark stories that feature messy main characters and bisexual representation. She is the author of a dark academia horror novel. In addition to writing fiction, De is a journalist specializing in pop culture, mental health, and LGBTQ+ issues.

Website: <http://deelizabeth.com>
Instagram: WordsByDe

Author Residence: Philadelphia, PA

Author Hometown: Hudson Valley, NY



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256 Pages
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Young Adult Fiction / Mysteries &
Detective Stories

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Steps

Wendelin Van Draanen

Summary

***Riverdale* meets *The Queen's Gambit* in this fun, twisty thriller by an Edgar Award-winning author, featuring a deliciously dysfunctional family with dark secrets and shifting alliances.**

Fourteen-year-old chess whiz Ruby Vossen tries to keep to herself. She refuses to be a pawn in her wealthy family's web of deception.

But ever since Ruby's mother and aunt died in a car wreck, the battle lines drawn within the Vossen clan have ruled her life. Ruby's father and uncle became irreparably estranged, and within months, Ruby's cousin/BFF was banished from her life, her father remarried, and she wound up with a gold-digging stepmom who has two teens of her own—The Steps.

So when strange and dangerous things begin happening on the Vossen estate, Ruby sees only one logical explanation: The Steps are scheming to inherit the Vossen fortune. And as things get more and more intense, it seems like killing is in their playbook.

Luckily, Ruby has her own playbook, and she's not about to go down without a fight. She'll even break her dad's rules to get her cousin back on her side of the chessboard . . . It's time to check-mate The Steps before they can finish the Vossens off.

Secrets, lies, and lethal threats abound in this clever, quirky thriller by the award-winning, bestselling author of *Flipped* and the Sammy Keyes mysteries.

Contributor Bio

Wendelin Van Draanen is the award-winning, bestselling author of more than thirty novels for kids and teens. Her books include *Flipped*, which was named a Top 100 Children's Novel for the 21st Century by SLJ and became a Warner Brothers feature film, the Edgar Award-winning Sammy Keyes mystery series, and *The Running Dream*, which won ALA's Schneider Family Book award. A high school teacher for fifteen years, Wendelin is now a full time writer who enjoys staying active in the school author-visit space.

Author Residence: San Luis Obispo, CA

Author Hometown: Chicago, IL



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Hardcover

352 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Fantasy
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

A Riddle of Thorns

Sarena Nanua, Sasha Nanua

Summary

***A Riddle of Thorns* is a twisty Dark Academia mystery—glittering, elegant, unsettling, and perfect for fans of *Divine Rivals* and *The Inheritance Games*.**

Sana Gupta has waited years to return to her ancestral home in Paris, with its labyrinthine halls and overgrown gardens. Sent away as a child when her mother disappeared, Sana has long puzzled over whether her mother's departure was just another of her famously unsolvable riddles.

Now eighteen and ready to claim her inheritance, Sana arrives at the dark and dilapidated estate to find three strangers awaiting her: Fox, an eccentric prodigy who models himself after Sherlock Holmes; Isabelle, a seemingly innocent girl who shares an icy history with Sana; and Minho, a handsome young genius always wearing half a smirk. Per her mother's will, they've each received a cryptic invitation to compete in a contest of riddles for the deed to Razorthorn Manor—and the rumored treasure hidden within: a flower created by the gods themselves, able to grant any wish.

Feeling betrayed by her mother, Sana sets out to uncover the truth of where her mother really went, what links the competitors together, and what secrets the crumbling and disquieting house conceals. But her task won't be easy—for her competitors will do anything to win this twisted game . . . Set in a darkly shimmering Edwardian Paris where worship of the Roman gods never ended, *A Riddle of Thorns* drips with Gothic atmosphere, sizzles with romantic tension, and confounds with intricate puzzles and long-buried mysteries, perfect for fans of *Divine Rivals* and *The Inheritance Games*.

Contributor Bio

Sarena and Sasha Nanua are twin sisters who love stories featuring mysteries, puzzles, and magic. Born on Diwali ten minutes apart, they began writing books together at the age of nine. They are graduates of the English and professional writing programs at the University of Toronto and are the authors of *Spirit Service*, *Sisters of the Snake*, and *Daughters of the Dawn*. You can visit them online at sarenasashabooks.com.

Author Residence: Ontario, Canada



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Hardcover

352 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Science
Fiction
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

A Time Traveler's History of Tomorrow

Kendall Kulper

Summary

A time-bending love story between a prickly young woman and a carefree stranger, who are tasked with saving the universe—after accidentally destroying it in the first place.

Genevieve Newhouse and Ash Hargreaves weren't supposed to meet like this. Unless it was always meant to be . . .

Gen is a fastidious science prodigy with a chip on her shoulder, and she can turn herself invisible.

Happy-go-lucky Ash has just escaped a sheltered (read: cultish) childhood, and he can manipulate time.

The gifted eighteen-year-olds cross paths at the 1934 Chicago World's Fair, where Genevieve's experimental physics project causes an apocalyptic explosion. Ash tries to avert catastrophe by gallantly rewinding time a few minutes, but instead, he transports them back to 1893. The duo finds themselves trapped in an unfamiliar, unwelcoming era, with no idea how to return to their own time—or if their own time even exists. Their cataclysmic leap across decades might have destroyed the world as they know it . . .

Fate and free will intertwine in this page turning historical romance that sets two irresistible strangers down a chaotic, potentially apocalyptic path. "Will they or won't they" takes on a whole new meaning as Gen and Ash fight for survival while falling in love.

Hand to fans of *Immortal Longings* and *Anatomy: A Love Story*, and don't miss companion novels *Murder for the Modern Girl* and *A Starlet's Secret to a Sensational Afterlife*.

Contributor Bio

Kendall Kulper is an author living in Cambridge, MA. She writes historical fantasy for young adult readers, including *Murder for the Modern Girl* (JLG Gold Standard Selection, Pennsylvania Young Readers Choice Award Selection, and Rise: Feminist Book Project Selection) and *A Starlet's Secret to a Sensational Afterlife* (JLG Gold Standard Selection and Bank Street Best Book of the Year). She graduated from Harvard University with an honors degree in History & Literature and lives with her husband, two daughters, and much-Instagrammed dog, Abby. Visit her online at kendallkulper.com and [@kendallkulper](https://www.instagram.com/kendallkulper)

Author Residence: Cambridge, MA

Author Hometown: New Jersey



No Charm Done

Tori Anne Martin

Summary

May the best witch win in this sapphic enemies-to-lovers romcom, where rival witches hex for the affections of the new boy in school... but are vexed by their interest in each other.

Welcome to Thornhaven, a quaint coastal town where witches hide in plain sight.

Lily Allerton is descended from Thornhaven's most illustrious magical family. When her tarot cards tell her that acquiring a boyfriend is essential for a successful senior year, she decides to do whatever it takes to bag the cute new boy at school—including overcoming her total lack of interest in him. Determined to make her parents proud, appear "normal" (the fact that she's never liked a boy is a closely guarded secret), and stay on top of the popular-kid food chain, future valedictorian Lily makes sure that nothing stands in the way of her goals.

But Chrysanthemum Quinn might.

When Chrys moved to town three years ago, she had high hopes that she'd no longer be the outcast with weird powers—hopes that Lily quickly dashed by ostracizing her from the other witches at school. She was too poor, too grunge, and too sarcastic for Lily's tastes, with a major resting witch face. Nothing like a proper Thornhaven witch. Since then, she and Lily have despised each other and competed relentlessly. Chrys is going to beat Lily for valedictorian—and if Lily wants the new boy, then Chrys is going to win him first.

But when Lily's and Chrys's attempts to hex each other create a curse that threatens the town, they'll have to put aside their animosity to stop it... and reckon with some deeply buried emotions. Because breaking the curse will take more than magic—it'll take acknowledging that it's not the boy either of them wants. This fresh, playful, witchy romcom from USA Today Bestselling author Tori Anne Martin (*This Spells Disaster*) is sure to appeal to fans of sapphic charmers like *I Kissed Shara Wheeler* and *She Gets the Girl*.

Contributor Bio

Tori Anne Martin is the USA Today bestselling author of *This Spells Disaster*, as well as romance and fantasy under other (not-so-secret) names. She lives in New England where she collects pen names, tattoos, and hoodies in shades of gray and black. Previously, she collected degrees, including a doctorate in psychology where she studied interpersonal power, consent, and sexual assault. She much prefers writing romance. If you can't find her online, it's because she's lost in the woods.

Author Hometown: Londonderry, NH

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288 Pages
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Young Adult Fiction / Thrillers &
Suspense
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Dead Girls Talking

Megan Cooley Peterson

Summary

The town of Wolf Ridge calls him The Smiley Face Killer. Bettina Holland calls him her father.

Everyone knows Bettina's father was the one who murdered her mother a decade ago. It's the subject of podcasts, murder tours, and even a highly anticipated docuseries. But after growing up grappling with what that means, a string of copycat murders forces Bett to answer a harder question: What if he *didn't*?

Old-money Bett must team up with the only person willing to investigate alongside her: bookish goth girl Eugenia, the mortician's daughter, who everyone says puts the makeup on corpses. Can this "true crime princess" unmask a murderer who's much closer to home than she ever imagined?

Gritty, gripping, and propulsive from page one, *Dead Girls Talking* is a ride for readers who love to see girls get their hands dirty as they claw their way to the truth. Peterson's knife-sharp thriller cuts deep, with a wicked sense of humor, a wire-taut atmosphere, and a deadly serious approach to bigger issues of justice and female anger.

AS FEATURED ON THE NERD DAILY AND THE STAR TRIBUNE

"Spine-tingling."—*Booklist*

"Engrossing. This is a book you won't want to put down."—Crystal J. Bell, author of *The Lamplighter*

Contributor Bio

Megan Cooley Peterson is an author, editor, and coffee drinker. As a teenager, Megan was part of a repressive, cult-like doomsday church that didn't like to be questioned. She questioned anyway. Megan has written about her experience in *Bustle*, highlighting how it helped shape *The Liar's Daughter*, her first young adult novel. The author of more than 80 nonfiction books for children, she has written on a wide variety of topics, including dinosaurs, sharks, urban legends, and haunted objects. Megan lives in Minnesota with her husband and daughter. Learn more at megancooleypeterson.com or connect on Twitter @meganncpeterson or Instagram @megancooleypeterson.

Author Residence: Minneapolis, MN



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\$13.99
Trade Paperback

256 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Zombies
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Take All of Us

Natalie Leif

Summary

A YA unbury-your-gays horror in which an undead teen must find the boy he loves before he loses his mind and body.

Five years ago, a parasite poisoned the water of Ian's West Virginia hometown, turning dozens of locals into dark-eyed, oil-dripping shells of their former selves. With chronic migraines and seizures limiting his physical abilities, Ian relies on his best friend and secret love Eric to mercy-kill any infected people they come across.

Until a new health report about the contamination triggers a mandatory government evacuation, and Ian cracks his head in the rush. Used to hospitals and health scares, Ian always thought he'd die young... but he wasn't planning on coming back. Much less face the slow, painful realization that Eric *left him behind to die*.

Desperate to find Eric and the truth before the parasite takes over him, Ian along with two others left behind—his old childhood rival Monica and the jaded prepper Angel—journey to track down Eric. What they don't know is that Eric is also looking for Ian, and he's determined to mercy-kill him.

Contributor Bio

What is there to say about the mysterious **Natalie Leif**? A Wisconsin graduate with a BA in Technical Writing, Leif is an author, illustrator, and library page. By day, they shelve books and talk to patrons. By night, they write stories about undead kids and draw illustrations about magic. Their writing and illustration work has appeared in several anthologies, including the Tankadere series by Crab Tank and *Then It Was Dark* by Sarah Benkin, as well as on the site Reflex Fiction. They've won the Seattle EPIC Writers contest for fiction and poetry and drew the nonprofit graphic novel Crossing the Road for the city of Lynnwood, WA.

Author Residence: Seattle, WA

Ida B. Wells and the Untold Truth of a Country

Lesa Cline-Ransome

Summary

In 1862, Ida B. Wells was born into slavery. Today, her legacy lives on as a trailblazing journalist and activist. Celebrate the life and achievements of a Civil Rights pioneer in this definitive middle-grade biography from Coretta Scott King Honoree Lesa Cline-Ransome.

Decades before Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat, Ida B. Wells was thrown out of her first class train car despite having a ticket. It wasn't the last time Civil Rights activist and journalist Wells would be challenged: in 1892, a white mob burned her printing press and drove her out of town. But no matter what opposition she faced, Ida B. Wells wasn't going anywhere—and in 2020, she won a posthumous Pulitzer Prize for her courageous reporting on the violence against African Americans during the era of lynching.

This biography is the awe-inspiring true story of Ida B. Wells, an activist icon who co-founded the NAACP, published her own newspaper, and fought for intersectionality within the suffragist movement—a trailblazer who was as important in her time as she remains today.

Coretta Scott King Honor author and NAACP Image Award winner Lesa Cline-Ransome brings Ida B. Wells' achievements to life, and to a young audience that recognizes the need to shatter the status quo. Beyond just a biography, this powerful text honors the history of Civil Rights while challenging readers to push back against oppressive forces by being their boldest, bravest selves.

Contributor Bio

Lesa Cline-Ransome is the author of more than twenty books for young readers including the award-winning Finding Langston trilogy. Her work has received a plethora of honors, including dozens of starred reviews, NAACP Image Award nominations, a Coretta Scott King honor, the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction and a Christopher Award. Her work has been named to ALA Notable Books and Bank Street Best Children's Book lists and she lives in the Hudson Valley region of New York.

Author Residence: Rhinebeck, NY

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\$19.99
Hardcover

176 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Tenth Man

A Miracle of New Orleans

Artie Bennett, Shira Neiss

Summary

The true story of how a nearly 100-year-old synagogue and its elderly congregation found new life, hope, and community in New Orleans.

In Orthodox tradition, one needs ten Jewish men to perform certain prayers, but the nine elderly congregants of Anshe Sfard, all Holocaust survivors, had gone without a tenth person for a long time. Until a young man named Alex Brown happened to knock on the door and changed everything. Through small acts of service, like carrying the Torah to the bimah, Alex helped bring community life back to the shul.

In this heartfelt tribute to World War II survivors and the greatest generation, Artie Bennett captures everyday life at the synagogue and all the individual personalities of the men with humor and heart: who liked to play pranks, who liked to bicker, and who could slice a tomato so that not a single piece went to waste.

They were tailors, shoemakers, grocers, schmatte sellers, deli owners, and ironworkers—and their stories continue to live on. Movingly illustrated by debut illustrator Shira Neiss, *The Tenth Man* shows how even the smallest acts of service can keep a community and its memories alive.

Back matter includes more information, a glossary, a bibliography, and photos.

Contributor Bio

Artie Bennett is a children's book author and executive copy editor at Random House Books for Young Readers. His picture books include *The Butt Book* and *The True Story of Zippy Chippy: The Little Horse That Couldn't*, which won the Magnolia Book Award and earned a 2021 CCBC Choice Award. He lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Author Residence: Brooklyn, NY

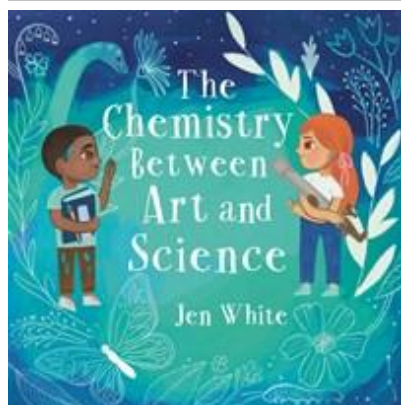
Shira Neiss is a freelance illustrator and textile designer based in Brooklyn. Her work is whimsical, irreverent, and possesses a strong Jewish and feminist sensibility. Shira also specializes in surface and textile design. *The Tenth Man* is her children's illustration debut.

Illustrator Residence: Brooklyn, NY

No Image
Available

Holiday House
9780823458431
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\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Religion
10 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Holiday House
9780823459698
Pub Date: 10/21/2025
On Sale Date: 10/21/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature
10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Chemistry Between Art and Science

Jen White

Summary

An inspiring look at how observation, patience, and creativity fuel our discoveries in art and science.

Art and science are often treated as two completely different fields, but if we look closer we might discover that artists and scientists have a lot in common. Like curiosity and imagination! And when they work together, art and science can explain the mysteries of the universe. Like how paleontologists study fossils and paleo artists bring those findings to life with brilliant color.

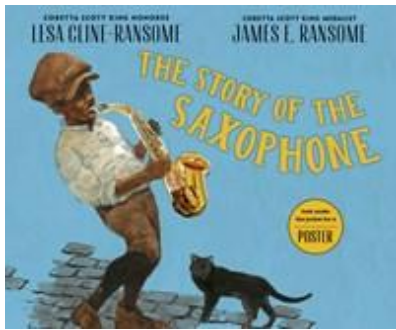
Beautifully illustrated by debut author-illustrator Jen White, *The Undeniable Chemistry between Art and Science* follows two children on a journey in which they discover how interconnected these two subjects are, and how they both lift the other up in inspiring ways. With nods to groundbreaking artist-scientists like George Washington Carver and Maria Sibylla Merian as well as the role of art and science in climate change solutions, space travel, and more, this picture book is perfect for kids who just want to ask questions and create, create, and create! Back matter includes more about careers in STEAM, DIY activities, a glossary, a bibliography, and more.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Jen White received her BFA in illustration with honors at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. Her first job out of college was working for Harcourt Trade Publishers as a designer, solidifying her love for creative book making. Today, Jen is a designer, creative director, author, and illustrator who works with a wide range of clients, including the San Diego Air and Space Observatory. *The Undeniable Chemistry between Art and Science* is her debut.

Author Residence: California



Holiday House
9780823459094
Pub Date: 12/9/2025
On Sale Date: 12/9/2025
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Nonfiction / Music
9 in H | 11 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Story of the Saxophone

Lesa Cline-Ransome, James E. Ransome

Summary

Brassy, smokey, melodious. There's nothing like the saxophone. This incredible work from the award-winners behind *Before She was Harriet* includes a poster of jazz music's greatest talents.

You may think that the story of the saxophone begins with Dexter Gordon or Charlie Parker, or on a street corner in New Orleans. It *really* began in 1840 in Belgium with a young daydreamer named Joseph-Antoine Adolphe Sax—a boy with bad luck but great ideas.

Coretta Scott King Honoree Lesa Cline-Ransome unravels the fascinating history of how Adolphe's once reviled instrument was transported across Europe and Mexico to New Orleans. Follow the saxophone's journey from Adolphe's imagination to the pawn shop window where it caught the eye of musician Sidney Bechet and became the iconic symbol of jazz music it is today.

Defly retold, this history is paired with the gorgeous artwork of James E. Ransome, including an attention-grabbing poster of iconic jazz musicians you can find inside the jacket.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

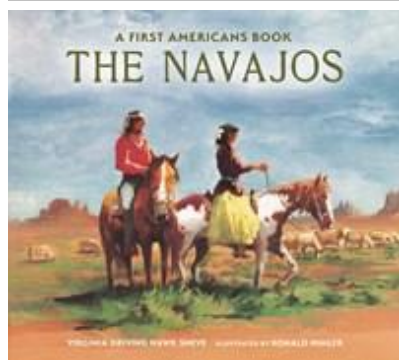
Contributor Bio

Lesa Cline-Ransome is the author of more than twenty books for young readers including the award-winning Finding Langston trilogy. Her work has received a plethora of honors, including dozens of starred reviews, NAACP Image Award nominations, a Coretta Scott King honor, the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction and a Christopher Award. Her work has been named to ALA Notable Books and Bank Street Best Children's Book lists and she lives in the Hudson Valley region of New York.

Author Residence: Rhinebeck, NY

James E. Ransome's has illustrated many award-winning books for children. His numerous accolades include a Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award for *The Creation*; a Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor for *The Bell Rang*, *Before She was Harriet*, and *Uncle Jed's Barbershop*; and an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work for *Let My People Go*. He lives in upstate New York.

Illustrator Residence: Rhinebeck, NY



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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / Native American
Series: First Americans
9.5 in H | 10.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Navajos

Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, Ronald Himler

Summary

In this new and updated edition, award-winning author Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve introduces young readers to the Navajo peoples.

Did you know that Navajo children were given their own lambs to signal their transition into adulthood? Learn about the Navajo's creation story, resistance and resilience against Spanish colonizers, forked-stick hogan homes, sand paintings, and more.

Expertly reviewed by a member of the Navajo tribe, this updated edition provides the most up to date and accurate information on the Navajo people of the past and present. Historical information is accompanied by a section on modern life and contemporary photos

Author Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve grew up on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation and is an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux tribe. She has brought the richness of Native American culture and heritage to thousands of children for over 40 years as a teacher and children's book author. Her First Americans books introduce young readers to the many diverse and unique Native American nations that first called this land home.

Contributor Bio

Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, teacher and children's book author, has brought the richness of Native American culture and heritage to thousands of children for over 40 years. Virginia spent her childhood on the Rosebud Sioux reservation and now lives with her husband in Rapid City, South Dakota. She has written the First Americans picture book series for Holiday House, *Jimmy Yellow Hawk*, and *High Elk's Treasure* among others. She is the anthologist of the highly acclaimed poetry book *Dancing Teepees: Poems of American Indian Youth*, illustrated by Stephen Gammell. She has received numerous honors, including the National Humanities Medal, the Human Rights Award from the South Dakota State Counselors Association, and Author-Illustrator Human and Civil Rights Award.

Author Residence: Rapid City, South Dakota

Author Hometown: Rosebud Sioux Reservation

Renowned illustrator Ronald Himler attended the Cleveland Institute of Art, where he majored in painting and illustration. Ron has illustrated more than 75 picture books and earned many awards over the course of his career, including the prestigious Society of Illustrators Silver Medal for the cover of *Red Cap*.

Illustrator Residence: Tucson, AZ

Illustrator Hometown: Cleveland, OH

No Image
Available

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Illustrator Residence: Tucson, AZ

Illustrator Hometown: Cleveland, OH

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On Sale Date: 12/1/2026
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Juvenile Nonfiction / Native American
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Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
10 in H | 10 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

I'm Gonna Paint

Ralph Fasanella, Artist of the People

Anne Broyles, Victoria Tentler-Krylov

Summary

The life of visionary folk artist and labor organizer Ralph Fasanella stunningly illustrated for picture book readers.

Winner of the Eloise Jarvis McGraw Award for Children's Literature

Winner of the Silver Medal at the Society of Illustrators' Original Art Show

Born in 1914 New York City to Italian immigrants, Ralph Fasanella's youth was one of dress factories, union meetings, and Momma's stories of the Bread & Roses Strike around the dinner table. By teaching himself how to paint, Ralph discovered he could use art to fight for working people.

Anne Broyles taps into Ralph's indomitable spirit to show his evolution as an artist, while Victoria Tentler-Krylov's energetic art leaps off the page with wonder and homages to Ralph's style.

Meticulously researched with quotes from Ralph, the robust back matter includes reproductions of his paintings, historical photos, a timeline, a bibliography, a source notes, and much more.

A Bologna Children's Book Fair Illustration Winner

A Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year

Contributor Bio

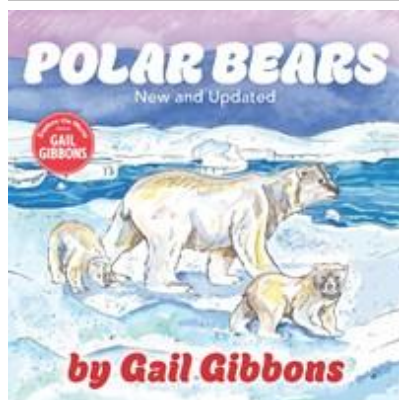
Anne Broyles is a world traveler, vegan cook, hiker, art lover, avid reader, and children's book author. Her published books for children include Arturo and the Bienvenido Feast, Arturo and the Navidad Birds, Priscilla and the Hollyhocks and Shy Mama's Halloween, which have won International Latino Book Awards, Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People, and Bank Street College Best Children's Book of the Year. Anne is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation. She lives in Portland, Oregon in a multi-generational household that also includes three cats and a dog named Clover.

Author Residence: Portland, Oregon

Victoria Tentler-Krylov is a trained and practicing architect, as well as a children's and editorial illustrator, who grew up in Saint Petersburg, Russia, and studied architecture and urban design at Cooper Union and Columbia University. Books she's illustrated for children include The Cyclops of Central Park, for which she was named an Ezra Jack Keats Award Honoree. Her art has also been published in the New Yorker, The Wall Street Journal, and The Boston Globe. Victoria lives in New Jersey with her family.

Illustrator Residence: New Jersey

Illustrator Hometown: Saint Petersburg, Russia



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Hardcover

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Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Polar Bears (New & Updated)

Gail Gibbons

Summary

Journey into the icy and threatened world of the polar bear in this new and updated edition of a classic from the go-to source for children's nonfiction, Gail Gibbons.

Nearly eight feet long and weighing close to 1,500 pounds, adult polar bears rule the arctic—one of the most challenging climates on Earth. But these magnificently large and fearsome creatures are essential to their ecosystem. How do they survive?

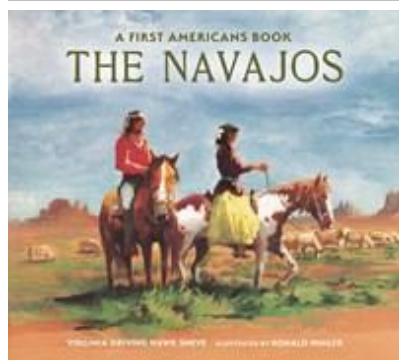
In her trademark infographic style, Gail Gibbons breaks down all the polar bear facts, from where it lives to how it hunts to how it rears its young. Diagrams show a polar bear's den, how a polar bear's stays warm, and much more. This newly updated edition includes the latest information on climate change and other threats to polar bears.

Gail Gibbons is the go-to source for early nonfiction for millions of educators and caregivers. As *The Washington Post* wrote, "Gail Gibbons has taught more preschoolers and early readers about the world than any other children's writer-illustrator."

Contributor Bio

According to *The Washington Post*, **Gail Gibbons** "has taught more preschoolers and early readers about the world than any other children's writer-illustrator." Ms. Gibbons has published more than 100 informational titles, including the bestselling titles *From Seed to Plant* and *Monarch Butterfly*, all fully vetted by experts. Her many honors include the Washington Post/Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award and the NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award.

Author Residence: Corinth, Vermont



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\$18.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
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Author Residence: Rapid City, South Dakota

Author Hometown: Rosebud Sioux Reservation

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Illustrator Residence: Tucson, AZ

Illustrator Hometown: Cleveland, OH

No Image
Available

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Illustrator Residence: Tucson, AZ

Illustrator Hometown: Cleveland, OH

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Hardcover

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Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / Native American
Series: First Americans
9.5 in H | 10.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



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\$18.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Hispanic & Latino
10 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

My Daddy Speaks English, Mamá habla español

Mariane Rodriguez Dolce, Joe Cepeda

Summary

A fun rhyming picture book that celebrates bilingual households.

Early en la mañana,
Mamá drinks café.
Mi hermana drinks juice,
And Daddy drinks té.

Written with a combination of English and Spanish words that reflects the speech of a bilingual family, this story follows a child through her busy day--breakfast with Mommy, Daddy, and big sister; at the library with Grandma; buying groceries with Mommy; dinner time; bathtime; storytime; and bedtime. Every event is filled with love and joy. Then she dreams sweet dreams--in both English and Spanish, of course!

A glossary is included.

Born and raised in Puerto Rico and now living in Florida, the author was inspired to write *My Daddy Speaks English, Mamá habla español*, by a desire to teach her daughter to appreciate her father's American culture as well as her own Hispanic culture. Charming illustrations depicting the loving bilingual household in this book are by Joe Cepeda, whose work has received many honors including a Pura Belpré Honor and a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor.

Contributor Bio

Mariane Rodriguez Dolce (DOHL-cheh) was born in Cidra, Puerto Rico, the same hometown as Pura Belpré! She moved to Central Florida when she was 17. Mariane graduated from the University of South Florida with a Masters in Library and Information Science. Her focus as a librarian and teacher has always been to share literature that nurtures empathy and ignites curiosity. Having a deep love for Hispanic and American cultures and languages, she hopes this book will serve as a window into our country's cultural richness as well as a mirror for children growing up in bicultural homes. She currently teaches second grade and lives in Florida with her husband and her two daughters.

"This story came to me when my youngest daughter was a toddler and I would spend hours playing with and reading to her. Because it was important for me that she learn and appreciate her father's American culture as well as my Hispanic culture, I was intentional about exposing her to both. I learned through research that the best way to teach a child two languages is for each parent to communicate with the child using the language mom or dad is more comfortable with. Living in two cultures and practicing the traditions and customs of both came naturally to us as we feel deep appreciation for our unique heritages."

Author Residence: Florida

Author Hometown: Cidra, Puerto Rico

Joe Cepeda (seh-PEH-duh) received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from California State University, Long Beach, and also studied Engineering at Cornell University. He is a fine artist, as well as an illustrator of more than thirty-five book jackets and picture books, which have received many honors including Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies, Parenting Magazine's Reading Magic Award, Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Platinum Award, Texas Library Association 2x2 Reading List, ALA Notable Books, and Child Magazine's Best Book of the Year. Joe illustrated *Hey, Hey Hay!* by Christy Mihaly, *iVamonos! Let's Go!* by Rene Colato Lainez, and *Swing Sisters* by Karen Deans. He both wrote and illustrated the I Like to Read books--*Up, I Dig, I See, I Help,*

and the Theodor Geisel Honoree *I Hop*. Joe received an American Library Association Pura Belpré Honor and the Recognition of Merit Award from the George G. Stone Center for Children's Books. He lives in Claremont, California.

Illustrator Residence:Claremont, CA

Illustrator Hometown:East Los Angeles, CA



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On Sale Date: 10/14/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Performing Arts
11 in H | 8.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

El oso polar y la bailarina

Eric Velasquez

Summary

How does a bear go to the ballet? A polar bear escapes into New York City in this heartfelt picture book from award-winning Afro-Latino artist Eric Velasquez.

A wordless story of unlikely friendship that celebrates art and its ability to connect us. However, this picture book also opens a conversation about alienation and empathy. Who is kept out of the theater? How can we welcome them in? A deeply personal story, author Eric Velasquez sees himself in this tale.

When dancers have a photoshoot at the Central Park Zoo, a young, African American ballerina and a polar bear form a special friendship. When his new friend leaves her scarf behind, the polar bear must venture through Central Park and out into Manhattan to return it before her performance at the Lincoln Center.

However, the theatergoers eye the strange bear with suspicion. When the ushers won't let him inside, the ballerina comes to his rescue and welcomes him in. The polar bear has dreamed of seeing the ballet, and now he gets to be a part of it in the most surprising way.

The wordless narrative is told through expressive and detailed oil paintings. On the endpapers, readers learn more about these loveable characters with illustrations of zoo signage about polar bears and a magazine article about the young ballerina.

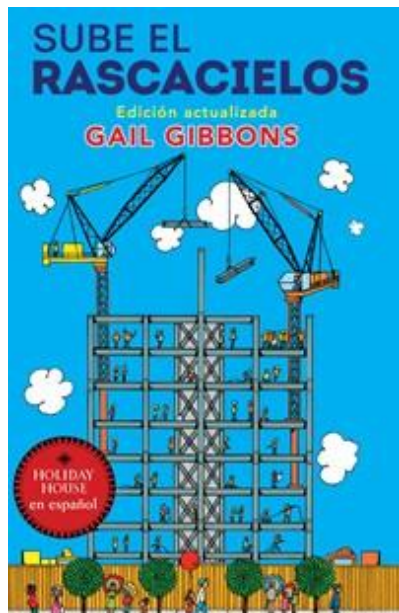
Eric Velasquez, author-illustrator of Bank Street Best Book of the Year *Octopus Stew*, brings a dream-like magic to this tale of empathy and kindred spirits.

Contributor Bio

Eric Velasquez's awards include the John Steptoe / Coretta Scott King Award for new talent, a Pura Belpré Award, an NAACP Image Award, and a Carter G. Woodson Award. For Holiday House, he both wrote and illustrated *Looking for Bongo*, and he illustrated *Ol'Clip-Clop: A Ghost Story* by Patricia C. McKissack (Anne Izard Storyteller's Choice Award Winner, Georgia Children's Book Award, Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year--Outstanding Merit) and *New Shoes* by Susan Lynn Meyer (Jane Addams Peace Association Children's Book Award, Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year, New York State Reading Association Charlotte Award). The son of Afro-Puerto Rican parents who encouraged music and storytelling, Eric grew up in Spanish Harlem, New York. As a child, he loved superheroes, comics and drawing, much like the boy in *Octopus Stew*. He teaches illustration at the Fashion Institute of Technology and lives in New York.

Author Residence: Harstdale, NY

Author Hometown: Harlem, New York



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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

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Juvenile Nonfiction / Architecture
10 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Sube el rascacielos

Gail Gibbons

Summary

See how a skyscraper is built from the ground up in this new and updated edition of a classic from Gail Gibbons, now available in Spanish!

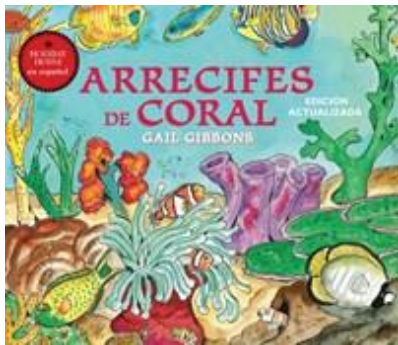
From the architectural drawings to the foundation to ironworkers laboring 30 stories up, constructing a skyscraper from foundation to spire requires years of planning and lots of hard work! In this new Spanish edition of a beloved Gail Gibbons classic, readers will learn how skyscrapers are built step-by-step. The translation was derived from the newly revised English edition, which includes up-to-date building techniques and has been vetted by an expert.

On its initial publication in 1986, *Up Goes the Skyscraper* was commended by School Library Journal, which noted that the book “does a magnificent job of explaining a complex subject.” This new Spanish addition will bring Gail’s insights on building a high-rise to a whole new set of budding engineers and architects.

Contributor Bio

According to *the Washington Post*, Gail Gibbons “has taught more preschoolers and early readers about the world than any other children’s writer-illustrator.” The multi award-winning Gail Gibbons is the author of more than 100 books for young readers, including the best-selling titles *From Seed to Plant* and *Monarch Butterfly*. Her many honors include the Regina Medal, the Washington Post/Children’s Book Guild Nonfiction Award, and the NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award

Author Residence: Corinth, VT



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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
9.5 in H | 10.8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Arrecifes de coral

Gail Gibbons

Summary

What is life like in a coral reef? What do corals eat? Why are corals more colorful at nighttime? Learn about some of the most beautiful locations in the natural world in this new Spanish edition of a Gail Gibbons classic!

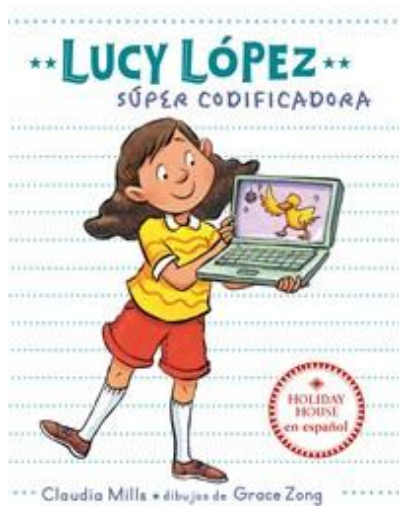
Marine biologists believe coral reefs existed 400 million years ago, when dinosaurs roamed the earth. Today this active environment is home to about 20,000 kinds of brilliantly colored corals, plants, and animals--more sea creatures than are found anywhere else in the world. The Great Barrier Reef in Australia is so large that astronauts can see it from outer space!

Young Spanish speakers and Spanish language learners will enjoy this new translation of Gibbon's informative text, derived from the newly updated English edition, which was vetted by a scientist working at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. The simple Spanish vocabulary is reinforced by clear and detailed illustrations that guide readers on their journey into the unique lives of coral reefs.

Contributor Bio

According to *the Washington Post*, Gail Gibbons "has taught more preschoolers and early readers about the world than any other children's writer-illustrator." The multi award-winning Gail Gibbons is the author of more than 100 books for young readers, including the best-selling titles *From Seed to Plant* and *Monarch Butterfly*. Her many honors include the Regina Medal, the Washington Post/Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award, and the NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award

Author Residence: Corinth, VT



Holiday House
9780823461783
Pub Date: 12/9/2025
On Sale Date: 12/9/2025
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

128 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
7.6 in H | 5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Lucy Lopez: súper codificadora

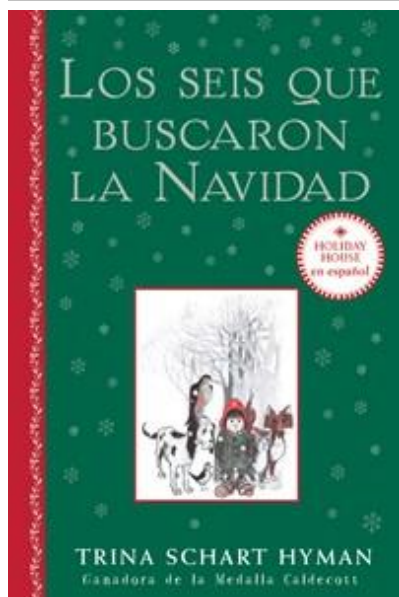
Claudia Mills, Grace Zong

Summary

Talented Lucy Lopez finds her passion when she joins an after-school coding camp, but can her older sister come to terms with their shared hobby? This lively chapter book about a Latine STEM superstar is now available in Spanish!

Third-grader Lucy Lopez and her older sister Elena used to have so much fun together working on the club they co-founded. But now, Elena is spending most of her time coding on the computer and Lucy feels left out. She decides to join the after-school coding camp in the hopes that Elena will want to add coding to their list of club activities and it can be something they can do together. But when Lucy proves to be a natural, Elena is none too happy--why does Lucy have to do everything she does?

Parents and kids on the hunt for a fun and informative Spanish-language book about coding need look no further! A STEM-forward story with a Latine protagonist, this book is also perfect for readers who devoured the Judy Moody Spanish translations and are in search of more Spanish-language chapter books. Large black-and-white illustrations emphasize the kid appeal!



Holiday House
9780823461912
Pub Date: 9/9/2025
On Sale Date: 9/9/2025
\$15.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays & Celebrations
7.5 in H | 5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Los seis que buscaron la Navidad

Trina Schart Hyman

Summary

Enter the Great Snow Forest to discover the true meaning of Christmas in this beautifully produced Spanish translation of a holiday classic from Caldecott Medalist Trina Schart Hyman.

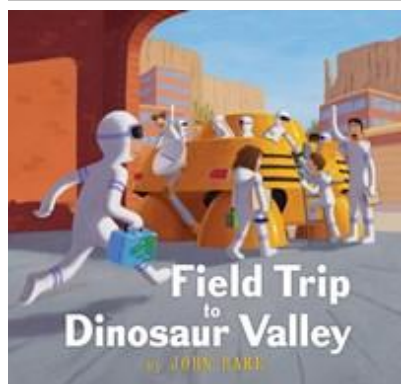
Once upon a time there was a little girl who had never heard of Christmas and did not know what it was. Curious, the little girl set off into the snowy woods in search of Christmas, gathering a memorable troupe of five animal companions along the way: a curious cat, a sad-faced hound, a regal hawk, a wise old fox, and an amusing nightingale.

Throughout the story, each of the girl's companions raises questions: What does Christmas feel like? Is it comfortable and warm? What does it sound like? Does it laugh? Does it shriek? But beneath the gently falling snow, the titular six discover a different answer to their questions than expected: Christmas is how Christmas feels.

A timeless classic, this stunning Spanish-language reissue of Caldecott Medalist Trina Schart Hyman's gentle, introspective holiday tale leaves readers with the greatest Christmas story of all: that Christmas is not only where you find it; it's what you make of it.

Contributor Bio

Trina Schart Hyman (1939 - 2004) received one Caldecott Medal and three Caldecott Honors during her distinguished career. From the age of four she knew that she would become an illustrator. She insisted that drawing was her reason for being. "I drew because I needed to," she said, "as well as for the sheer joy of it." She created iconic, exquisite illustrations for more than 150 books. Born in Philadelphia, she lived most of her life in New Hampshire.



Field Trip to Dinosaur Valley

John Hare

Summary

It's time for a field trip! Board the yellow time travel bus and blast into the Jurassic past in this new wordless picture book in the Field Trip Adventures Series by award-winning creator John Hare.

Volcanoes smolder. Towering dinosaurs munch leaves from the trees. And this class is going to see them up close—maybe way too close!

When a rascally kepodactylus snatches a student's lunch box, the student gives chase and gets it back but also becomes separated from their class. They decide to eat their lunch while waiting to be rescued and end up sharing it with friendly dinosaurs. But when the dinosaurs suddenly disappear, the student is left face to face with a gigantic crafty carnivore who doesn't just want that slice of pizza for lunch! Fortunately there is a surprise rescue and the student makes it back to the time travel bus where human friends are waiting with snacks to share.

With engaging artwork and lots of laughs, John Hare's wordless picture book is sure to captivate readers with its expressive characters and winning story. Don't miss out the rest of the Field Trip Adventure series and join the class for Field Trip to the Moon, Field Trip to the Ocean Deep, and Field Trip to Volcano Island!

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

John Hare is a freelance illustrator and graphic designer as well as the creator of *Field Trip to the Moon* (an ALA Notable Children's Book and a LITA Golden Duck Picture Book), *Field Trip to the Ocean Deep* (a LITA Golden Duck Picture Book), and *Field Trip to Volcano Island* (a School Library Journal Best Book of the Year), among other books. He lives in Gladstone, Missouri with his wife and two children. Visit him at johnhareart.com.

Author Residence: Gladstone, MO

Margaret Ferguson Books

9780823459575

Pub Date: 9/2/2025

On Sale Date: 9/2/2025

\$18.99

Hardcover

40 Pages

Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Animals

Series: Field Trip Adventures

9.5 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Plus One

John Hare

Summary

When Agnes decides to host a tea party, she finds it hard to shake a most unlikely guest . . . and his even more unlikely friends.

Agnes is new to town and wants to make friends, so she invites some girls in her class to a fancy tea party. When there is a knock at the door, she expects to see them—not Dave from next door. This isn't what she had in mind at all. . .

"The invitation says plus one.

This means you need to bring a friend.

And since you don't have a friend with you—goodbye."

Agnes is sure that will be the end of that, but Dave is persistent, and before long he's bringing one friend after another as his plus one. Pierre of the North, Esquire, a goose who Agnes deems too loud; Fred, a cactus that's too prickly; Dr. Scalywiggles, a legless lizard she mistakes for a snake; even his mom, who makes great French toast and lets him win at tag. Alas, no grownups are allowed at this tea party.

But as the minutes pass and the other guests don't show up, Agnes is left with nothing but her tea set, watching Dave and his friends play tag. She works up the nerve to ask if she can join in and receives a resounding yes— and when the original guests arrive (late because of soccer practice) everyone heads inside for tea, no species excluded.

In this fun and funny tale, John Hare, author and illustrator of *Field Trip to the Moon*, *Field Trip to the Ocean Deep*, and *Field Trip to Volcano Island*, uses his signature wit and buoyant illustrations to share the timeless message that sometimes new friends turn out to be someone unexpected.

Contributor Bio

John Hare is a freelance illustrator and graphic designer as well as the creator of *Field Trip to the Moon* (an ALA Notable Children's Book and a LITA Golden Duck Picture Book), *Field Trip to the Ocean Deep* (a LITA Golden Duck Picture Book), and *Field Trip to Volcano Island* (a School Library Journal Best Book of the Year). He lives in Gladstone, Missouri with his wife and two children. Visit him at johnhareart.com.

Author Residence: Gladstone, Missouri

Margaret Ferguson Books

9780823461875

Pub Date: 10/21/2025

On Sale Date: 10/21/2025

\$8.99

Trade Paperback

40 Pages

Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes

10.5 in H | 9 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Margaret Ferguson Books
9780823459483
Pub Date: 9/30/2025
On Sale Date: 9/30/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

272 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Yoli's Favorite Things

Patricia Santana

Summary

"Do you know when the war will be over?"

"You're asking because you have older brothers, don't you?"

Twelve-year-old Yolanda Sahagún, an aspiring nun raised by strict Mexican immigrant parents, likes to envision her family of nine siblings as the von Trapps from her favorite movie, *The Sound of Music*. But a larger-than-life family isn't the only thing Yoli has in common with her fictional friends—she, too, is coming of age as war looms large.

In Yoli's household, rules define everything—especially those about what the Sahagún daughters are old enough to do, like no talking to boys on the phone. But there are no rules on the battlefield, and Yoli is grown enough to understand that her draft-eligible big brother (her favorite brother!) could be killed in the war. Determined to protect him, Yoli makes a pact with God. But what happens if God doesn't keep his end of the bargain?

Set against a rich historical backdrop of the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights Movement, Patricia Santana's heartfelt middle grade novel balances weighty themes with warm family dynamics and a captivating voice that's sure to be a favorite with fans of character-driven historical fiction, as well as contemporary readers who can relate to the challenges of just living their lives when it feels like the world is on fire.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Patricia Santana was born and raised in San Diego, California, and is the daughter of Mexican immigrants. *Yoli's Favorite Things* is a prequel to her previous two novels. *Motorcycle Ride on the Sea of Tranquility* was selected as a Best Book for Young Adults by the American Library Association. *Ghosts of El Grullo* is a novel for adults that won the Before Columbus American Book Award, the San Diego Book Award in Fiction, and the Premio Aztlán Prize. You can visit her at patriciasantana.net.

Author Residence: San Diego, CA



Margaret Ferguson Books
9780823461882
Pub Date: 10/14/2025
On Sale Date: 10/14/2025
\$10.99
Trade Paperback

272 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Last Apple Tree

Claudia Mills

Summary

When feuding neighbors Sonnet and Zeke are paired up for a class project, they unearth a secret that could uproot Sonnet's family—or allow it to finally heal and grow.

Twelve-year-old Sonnet's family has just moved across the country to live with her grandfather after her nana dies. Gramps's once-impressive apple orchard has been razed for a housing development, with only one heirloom tree left. Sonnet doesn't want to think about how Gramps and his tree are both growing old—she just wants everything to be okay.

Sonnet is *not* okay with her neighbor, Zeke, a boy her age who gets on her bad side and stays there when he tries to choose her grandpa to interview for an oral history assignment. Zeke irks Sonnet with his prying questions, bringing out the sad side of Gramps she'd rather not see. Meanwhile, Sonnet joins the Green Club at school and without talking to Zeke about it, she asks his activist father to speak at the Arbor Day assembly—a collision of worlds that Zeke wanted more than anything to avoid.

But when the interviews uncover a buried tragedy that concerns Sonnet's mother, and an emergency forces Sonnet and Zeke to cooperate again, Sonnet learns not just to accept Zeke as he is, but also that sometimes forgetting isn't the solution—even when remembering seems harder.

Award-winning author Claudia Mills brings enormous compassion and depth to this novel of unlikely friendship and generational memory.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Claudia Mills has written over sixty books for children, including *The Lost Language*, an NCTE Notable Verse Novel, a Charlotte Huck Recommended Book, A Mighty Girl Best Book of the Year, and A Bulletin for the Center of Children's Books Blue Ribbon Book. She is a recipient of the Kerlan Award for her contribution to children's literature. She was a professor of philosophy for more than two decades at the University of Colorado and is now a faculty member in the graduate programs in children's literature at Hollins University. She lives in Boulder, Colorado. Visit her at claudiamillsauthor.com.

Author Residence: Boulder, CO



Neal Porter Books
9780823447541
Pub Date: 9/2/2025
On Sale Date: 9/2/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Little Rebels

Yuyi Morales

Summary

Do you know a little rebel? Do you want to be a rebel, too? A powerful new picture book from Caldecott Honoree Yuyi Morales, creator of *Dreamers* and *Bright Star*.

Little rebels have a way of finding each other. When these three youngsters come together while playing outside, they feel the pull—these are their people.

Little rebels ask questions. They use language to shape the world, and when no words are right, they make up new ones. They imagine, trust their intuition, and aren't ashamed to change their minds.

Playing together in good times leads to working together through trouble. When the local lagoon dries up and a bird friend is trapped in the dry bed, the little rebels call on ancestors to show them what to do. Nobody gets left behind.

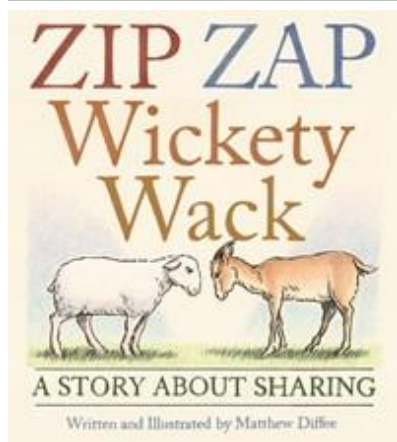
Caldecott Honoree and six-time Pura Belpré Medalist Yuyi Morales, creator of *Dreamers*, *Viva Frida*, and *Bright Star*, draws on Mexican folklore in this much-anticipated new offering. *Little Rebels* is as bold and spirited as the young trailblazers it chronicles. Find it also in Spanish as *Peques rebeldes*.

Contributor Bio

Yuyi Morales was born in Xalapa, Mexico, where she currently resides. She is a Caldecott Honoree and a repeated winner of the prestigious Pura Belpré Medal for Illustration, among other honors. Her titles include *Dreamers* (A New York Times bestseller), *Niño Wrestles the World*, *Viva Frida*, and *Bright Star*. She lived for many years in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she still maintains close connections.

Author Residence: Xalapa, Mexico

Author Hometown: Xalapa, Mexico



Neal Porter Books
9780823458714
Pub Date: 9/30/2025
On Sale Date: 9/30/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Humorous
Stories
10 in H | 9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Zip Zap Wickety Wack

A Story About Sharing

Matthew Diffie

Summary

New Yorker cartoonist Matthew Diffie makes his children's book debut with this laugh-out-loud twist on the classic animal sound book.

The cow says "moo." The horse says "neigh." Everyone can agree on these.

But when the sheep says "baa," the goat cuts in. The goat also says "baa." Now what? No one wants to share their sound!

The sheep has an idea—he'll just say something no one's ever said before: "zip zap wickety wack bing bang walla balla flip flap yackety yack." But an otherworldly visitor shows up to lay claim to this sound, too—and the alien doesn't want to share his identity either.

When the alien proposes a radical new way forward, the sheep and the goat find a compromise—and it may sound familiar to adult readers . . .

New Yorker cartoonist Matthew Diffie's hilarious wit will be an immediate hit with young readers in his first picture book. Sure to inspire boisterous read-alouds and threaded with a sneaky message about sharing, *Zip Zap Wickety Wack* will inspire new nonsense and new values in homes, classrooms, and farmyards around the world.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Matthew Diffie has been contributing cartoons to *The New Yorker* since 1999. His work has also appeared in *Time*, *The Huffington Post*, *The Believer*, and *Texas Monthly*. He is the editor of three volumes of *The Rejection Collection: Cartoons You Never Saw and Never Will See in The New Yorker*, and has also worked as a freelance illustrator. Diffie is a recipient of the Silver Reuben Award for gag cartooning, and was recently named Chairman of the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Cartoonists Society. He grew up in Texas, and now lives in Los Angeles.

Author Residence: Los Angeles, CA

Author Hometown: Denton, TX



Neal Porter Books
9780823459858
Pub Date: 10/7/2025
On Sale Date: 10/7/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

56 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Science Fiction
11 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

To Activate Space Portal, Lift Here

Antoinette Portis

Summary

This book is an interstellar portal, and the aliens inside want to get to know you!

Before you lift the cover, be sure you're ready to meet Zrk and Blrg. They're not so different from you—but to them, you're the alien!

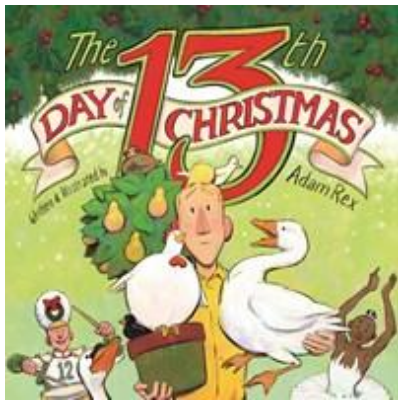
After their initial shock at seeing you through the portal, they're eager to see what kind of teeth you have, compare home planets, and maybe team up for a prank. You met as aliens, but by the time the portal closes, maybe you'll be friends.

To Activate Space Portal, Lift Here is an interactive treat sure to delight young galactic explorers. Antoinette Portis's bright lines and bold colors pair perfectly with humor that also offers a subtle message of acceptance. Whether for bedtime or circle time, this is a portal you'll want to open!

Contributor Bio

Antoinette Portis is the author of many inventive books for children, including *Not a Box*, *Hey, Water!*, *A New Green Day*, and *A Seed Grows*. Her work has received a Sibert Honor and two Geisel Honors, as well as multiple Best Book of the Year designations. A recipient of the prestigious Sendak Fellowship, she lives in Southern California. Visit her at Antoinetteportis.com.

Author Residence: Southern California



Neal Porter Books
9780823456536
Pub Date: 9/9/2025
On Sale Date: 9/9/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays &
Celebrations
10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The 13th Day of Christmas

Adam Rex

Summary

A partridge in a pear tree? Ten lords a-leaping? Now who would want such gifts? And more importantly—why would they be given?

Adam Rex investigates in this hilariously heart-warming tale based on one of the best-loved Christmas carols.

Our hero is having a lonesome Christmas away from his true love. So when she sends him a gift, of course he loves it—even if a partridge in a pear tree wasn't exactly on his wishlist.

Twelve days later, his home is crowded with more birds, milkmaids, pipers, and other guests than he can possibly make sense of. Why would his true love think he'd like this?!

His search for answers transforms the disaster into a source of joy for the whole town—complete with a parade, a circus, and a fundraiser for the school library. By the time his true love gets home, the man finally understands what she's given him: the true meaning of Christmas.

But she has no idea what he's talking about— the whole thing was a wacky online shopping mixup. All she'd meant to buy was a pair of gold engagement rings. She meant to propose!

Adam Rex, creator of *School's First Day of School* and many other beloved books for children, strikes again with this hilarious twist on a classic carol. Sardonic and earnest in equal measures, *The Thirteenth Day of Christmas* is a hit for any day of the year.

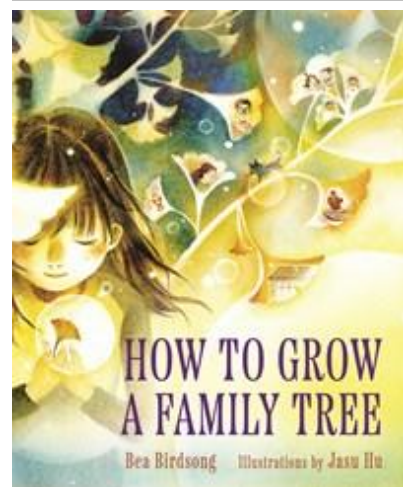
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Adam Rex is the author and illustrator of more than forty books for kids. These include New York Times bestselling picture books like *Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich* and *School's First Day of School*. His work has been adapted for film and television. He's won some awards, including the Margaret Wise Brown Prize in Children's Literature and the National Cartoonists Society Book Illustration Award. He used to make art for games like Dungeons & Dragons and Magic: The Gathering. Sometimes he still does. He lives in Tucson, Arizona, with his dog, son, and wife.

Author Residence: Tucson, AZ

Author Hometown: Tucson, AZ



Neal Porter Books
9780823453962
Pub Date: 10/7/2025
On Sale Date: 10/7/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Family
11 in H | 9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

How to Grow a Family Tree

Bea Birdsong, Jasu Hu

Summary

Can a family tree be found? A girl stresses over her heritage-mapping school assignment, until she realizes family is all around—her neighbors and friends.

All week, Emmylou's classmates get up and present their family trees. These trees are thick with branches, and there are stories to go with each face and name. Emmylou's tree is almost bare. There's her, Mama, and the names Mama won't say—the stories she doesn't tell.

By the end of the week, Emmylou wants the project to be over. She doesn't want to think about her family tree at all. After all, she only has one family recipe, the one she trades with Mrs. Patel for her mango chutney. She has no aunts or cousins—only Rosa next door to watch Emmylou after school. No siblings—only Rosa's baby twins for Emmylou to play peek-a-boo with. No zayde like Eli's to teach her to ride a bike—only Mr. Li, who doesn't complain when she runs over his foot.

Finally Emmylou knows what to tell her class. Her family isn't so small—she just had to look for it.

Bea Birdsong tells a tender story of found family and the bonds we choose, with art by Jasu Hu, illustrator of Howard Schwartz's *All You Need* and Janet Fox's *Wintergarden*.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Bea Birdsong is the author of *I Will Be Fierce*, Southern Book Prize Finalist *Sam's First Word*, *How to Spot a Best Friend*, and other books for children. She is also a writer for the education market and a former teacher who believes in the awesome power of books to educate, entertain, and empower. Bea lives in North Carolina with her husband, son, and rescue dog. She invites you to follow her on Twitter @BeaBirdsong and visit her online at beabirdsong.com.

Author Residence: North Carolina

Jasu Hu was born in Hunan, China. She has worked as an illustrator in China for six years while studying Visual Communication at Tsinghua University (Beijing). After finishing her MFA in Illustration at MICA (USA), she moved to New York and started working as a freelance illustrator. She also illustrated *All You Need*, by Howard Schwartz, and *Wintergarden*, by Janet Fox.

Illustrator Residence: New York, NY

Illustrator Hometown: Hunan, China



Neal Porter Books
9780823457205
Pub Date: 10/14/2025
On Sale Date: 10/14/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Year Round

Audrey Helen Weber

Summary

Explore winter questions, spring feelings, summer wishes and fall thoughts in Audrey Helen Weber's funky, joyous *Year Round*.

Fancy flies untethered in this child-centric escapade through the seasons of the year. Audrey Helen Weber's inimitable retro-feel artwork dazzles, with textured, vivid colors and a sense of life and movement on each page. Playful stream-of-consciousness text soars and loops, perfectly capturing the many feelings and memories that each season tends to kick up.

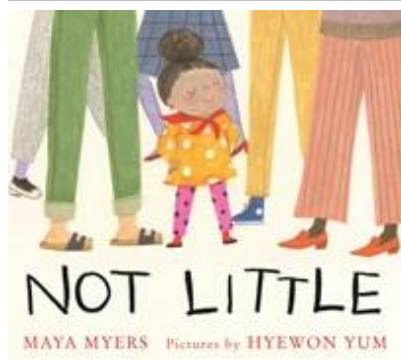
Whether your youngster has a philosophical streak, can't wait for their favorite season to come, or worries that time is moving too fast, they're sure to see themselves in the pages of *Year Round*, an ideal read-aloud for any and every day.

Contributor Bio

Audrey Helen Weber is an author and artist living in Western Massachusetts. They are the creator of *On the Day the Horse Got Out* and *The Wind & the Clover*, and the illustrator of Adam Rex's *Tumblebaby*. Their artwork has also appeared in numerous publications, including *the New York Times Book Review* and *the New Yorker* online.

Author Residence: Turners Falls, MA

Author Hometown: Central MA



Neal Porter Books
9780823461684
Pub Date: 10/28/2025
On Sale Date: 10/28/2025
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
9 in H | 10 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Not Little

Maya Myers, Hyewon Yum

Summary

Just because you're small doesn't mean you can't have a big heart. When the diminutive Dot stands up to a bully on behalf of an even smaller friend, she proves how big she can truly be.

Dot is the smallest person in her family and at school; even her name is small! People often mistake her for being younger than she is, but not when she tells them the square root of sixty-four is eight, nor when she orders from the grown-up menu at restaurants or checks out the hard books at the library. She may be small, but she's not little.

When a new boy named Sam joins Dot's class, she wonders if he's even smaller than she is. When she sees him getting bullied by a mean kid twice his size, she knows she has to do the big thing and stand up for him.

Maya Myers's debut picture book has a pitch-perfect voice that captures the inimitable Dot in all her fierceness, and Hyewon Yum's delightful pastel-hued artwork is its perfect complement.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection
An ALSC Notable Children's Book

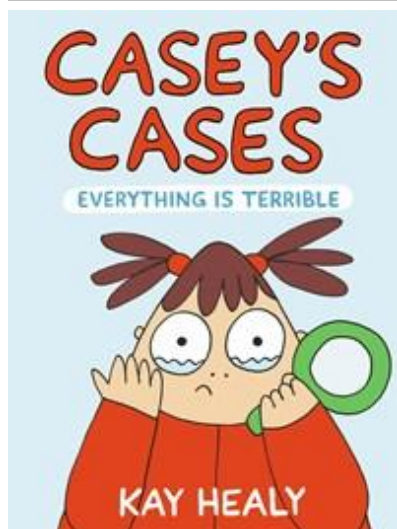
Contributor Bio

Maya Myers is a picture book author as well as a freelance book editor and a former elementary school teacher. She lives in Charlotte, North Carolina, with her husband, author/illustrator Matt Myers, and three daughters.

Author Residence: Charlotte, North Carolina

Hyewon Yum is the author and illustrator of several acclaimed books for children, including *This Is Our House*, *The Twins' Blanket*, *There Are No Scary Wolves*, and *Last Night*. Her book *Mom, It's My First Day of Kindergarten!* received the Ezra Jack Keats New Illustrator Award. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her family.

Illustrator Residence: Brooklyn, New York



Neal Porter Books
9780823456512
Pub Date: 9/30/2025
On Sale Date: 9/30/2025
\$16.99
Hardcover

208 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels

8 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Casey's Cases: Everything Is Terrible

Kay Healy

Summary

DIARY OF A WIMPY KID meets **NANCY DREW** meets **AMELIA BEDELIA** in this hilarious young graphic novel series featuring an aspiring detective who will solve any case . . . usually accidentally.

Casey has a lot on her plate, and not just delicious tater tots: campaigning for fifth grade class president, finding perfect homes for Ms. Muffin's seven kittens, getting the guts to ask AJ to the dance, and of course, continuing to hone her detective skills.

But just when everything seems to be coming together, it all falls apart. Casey's nemesis Dina gets her hands on a humiliating photo, and even worse, Casey's best friend Jan—ex-best friend??— is the one who gave it to Dina. Worst of all, Casey's parents are keeping a secret that will change her whole life.

Can detective Casey figure out the Case of Everything Is Terrible, or is this the one mystery without a solution?

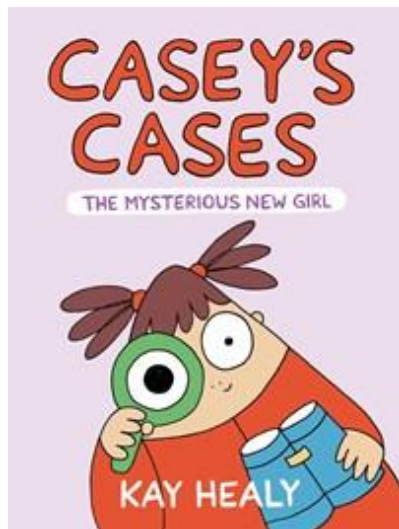
Fresh talent Kay Healy's winsome heroine, crackling wit, and charmingly geometric characters alchemize to comedy gold. Voracious young comics fans won't want to miss Casey's laugh-out-loud second adventure.

Contributor Bio

Kay Healy grew up on Staten Island, a borough of New York City. She studied art history at Oberlin College in Ohio, then went to art school to learn printmaking and book arts at UArts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. When not making books, Healy draws, screen prints, and sews fabric soft sculptures in her studio. She lives in Philadelphia with her husband, two daughters, two cats, and one dog.

Author Residence: Philadelphia, PA

Author Hometown: Staten Island, NY



Neal Porter Books
9780823462476
Pub Date: 9/30/2025
On Sale Date: 9/30/2025
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

160 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
8 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Casey's Cases: The Mysterious New Girl

Kay Healy

Summary

***Diary of a Wimpy Kid* meets *Nancy Drew* meets *Amelia Bedelia* in this hilarious young graphic novel series featuring an aspiring detective who will solve any case . . . usually accidentally.**

Casey wants nothing more than to be a detective. No mystery is too big or small for her to tackle! OK, so she doesn't see everything coming—mean girl Dina always has the last word, and Casey is constantly falling into embarrassing disasters in front of cute boy AJ.

But now, it's Casey's eleventh birthday, and she's just been given a magnifying glass and a pair of binoculars—perfect gifts for today's mystery: Mr. Muffin, a cat Casey's parents insist is too big to be a hungry stray. Will Casey manage to convince them he belongs with her? More importantly, could that new girl in school be the perfect contender for a new best friend? Casey's on the job, and she won't stop till all cases are closed.

Fresh talent Kay Healy's winsome heroine, crackling wit, and charmingly geometric characters alchemize to comedy gold. Voracious young comics fans won't want to miss Casey's laugh-out-loud debut.

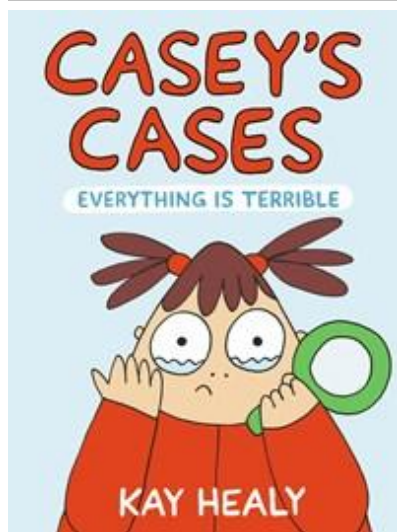
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Kay Healy grew up on Staten Island, a borough of New York City. She studied art history at Oberlin College in Ohio, then went to art school to learn printmaking and book arts at UArts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. When not making books, Healy draws, screen prints, and sews fabric soft sculptures in her studio. She lives in Philadelphia with her husband, two daughters, two cats, and one dog.

Author Residence: Philadelphia, PA

Author Hometown: Staten Island, NY



Neal Porter Books
9780823462483
Pub Date: 9/30/2025
On Sale Date: 9/30/2025
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

208 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
8 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Casey's Cases: Everything Is Terrible

Kay Healy

Summary

DIARY OF A WIMPY KID meets NANCY DREW meets AMELIA BEDELIA in this hilarious young graphic novel series featuring an aspiring detective who will solve any case . . . usually accidentally.

Casey has a lot on her plate, and not just delicious tater tots: campaigning for fifth grade class president, finding perfect homes for Ms. Muffin's seven kittens, getting the guts to ask AJ to the dance, and of course, continuing to hone her detective skills.

But just when everything seems to be coming together, it all falls apart. Casey's nemesis Dina gets her hands on a humiliating photo, and even worse, Casey's best friend Jan—ex-best friend??— is the one who gave it to Dina. Worst of all, Casey's parents are keeping a secret that will change her whole life.

Can detective Casey figure out the Case of Everything Is Terrible, or is this the one mystery without a solution?

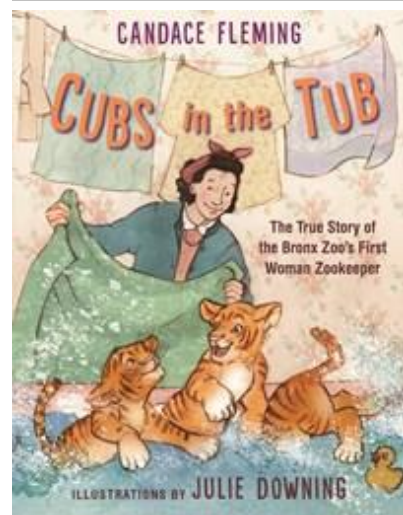
Fresh talent Kay Healy's winsome heroine, crackling wit, and charmingly geometric characters alchemize to comedy gold. Voracious young comics fans won't want to miss Casey's laugh-out-loud second adventure.

Contributor Bio

Kay Healy grew up on Staten Island, a borough of New York City. She studied art history at Oberlin College in Ohio, then went to art school to learn printmaking and book arts at UArts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. When not making books, Healy draws, screen prints, and sews fabric soft sculptures in her studio. She lives in Philadelphia with her husband, two daughters, two cats, and one dog.

Author Residence: Philadelphia, PA

Author Hometown: Staten Island, NY



Neal Porter Books
9780823461677
Pub Date: 9/16/2025
On Sale Date: 9/16/2025
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

48 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
11 in H | 8.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Cubs in the Tub

The True Story of the Bronx Zoo's First Woman Zookeeper

Candace Fleming, Julie Downing

Summary

Fred and Helen Martini longed for a baby, and they ended up with dozens of lion and tiger cubs! Snuggle up to this purr-fect read aloud about the Bronx Zoo's first female zookeeper.

When Bronx Zookeeper Fred brings home a lion cub whose mother lost the instinct to care for him, Helen Martini instantly embraces it. "Just do for him what you would do with a human baby," Fred suggests...and she does. Helen names him MacArthur, feeds him milk from a bottle, and coos him to sleep in a crib.

Soon, MacArthur isn't the only cub bathing in the Martini's tub! The couple continues to raise lion and tiger cubs as their own, until they are old enough to return to zoos. Helen becomes the first female zookeeper at the Bronx Zoo, the keeper of the nursery.

Cubs in the Tub is a terrific non-fiction book to read aloud while snuggling up with your cubs. Filled with adorable baby big cats, this is a story about love, dedication, and a new kind of family.

Gorgeously patterned illustrations by Julie Downing detail the in-home nursery, and a warm pallet creates a cozy pairing with Candace Fleming's lovely language.

Backmatter includes a short biography of Helen Martini and a selected bibliography.

A Junior Library Guild Selection

**A Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year
Named to the Texas Topaz Reading List**

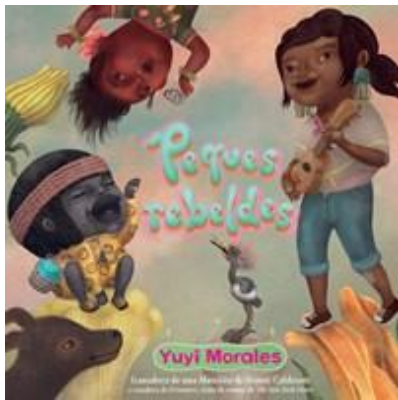
Contributor Bio

Candace Fleming is the author of more than twenty distinguished books for children including *The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia*, winner of, among other awards, the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award for Nonfiction. She received the NCTE Orbus Pictus Award and a Sibert Honor for *Giant Squid*. Her most recent book with Holiday House is *Honeybee*. She lives in Chicago.

Author Residence: Chicago IL

Julie Downing has illustrated over forty-five picture books including *The Fire Keeper's Son*, *Tessa Takes Wing* and *First Mothers*. She has won many awards including a Parents Choice Award, the New York Public Library's Best Books Award, APAAL Best Illustrated Book and the Irma Black Silver Medal. Her work has been featured in the SCBWI Original Art Show. Julie teaches illustration to undergraduate and graduate students at the Academy of Art University. She lives in San Francisco.

Illustrator Residence: San Francisco CA



Neal Porter Books
9780823452613
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\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Peques rebeldes

Yuyi Morales

Summary

Do you know a little rebel? Do you want to be a rebel, too? A powerful new picture book from Caldecott Honoree Yuyi Morales, creator of *Dreamers* and *Bright Star*.

Little rebels have a way of finding each other. When these three youngsters come together while playing outside, they feel the pull—these are their people.

Little rebels ask questions. They use language to shape the world, and when no words are right, they make up new ones. They imagine, trust their intuition, and aren't ashamed to change their minds.

Playing together in good times leads to working together through trouble. When the lagoon dries up and a bird friend is trapped in the dry bed, the little rebels call on ancestors to show them what to do. Nobody gets left behind.

Caldecott Honoree and six-time Pura Belpré Medalist Yuyi Morales, creator of *Dreamers*, *Viva Frida*, and *Bright Star*, draws on Mexican folklore in this much-anticipated new offering. *Little Rebels* is as bold and spirited as the young trailblazers it chronicles.

Contributor Bio

Yuyi Morales was born in Xalapa, Mexico, where she currently resides. She is a Caldecott Honoree and a repeated winner of the prestigious Pura Belpré Medal for Illustration, among other honors. Her titles include *Dreamers* (A New York Times bestseller), *Niño Wrestles the World*, *Viva Frida*, and *Bright Star*. She lived for many years in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she still maintains close connections.

Author Residence: Xalapa, Mexico

Author Hometown: Xalapa, Mexico

No Image
Available

The Great Mathemachicken 3: Sing High, Sing Crow

Nancy Krulik, Charlie Alder

Summary

Chirpy the chick learns that music is math, and songs can solve noisy problems in the third book in the Great Mathemachicken series, written by New York Times bestselling author Nancy Krulik and illustrated by Charlie Alder.

Chirpy the chicken is not feeling very chipper when a group of birds calling themselves the Crow Family Band keeps the coop awake with their loud singing. She's supposed to be the Great Mathemachicken, but math can't solve their sleep problems. Or can it?

At school, Chirpy and Quackers are singing a new tune as they take a trip to the music classroom. There, they learn about musical notes, which seem to work an awful lot like fractions.

And when she sees how Mrs. Zoober's students, singing high and low, together make one wonderful tune, she gets a egg-stra good idea how the chickens might join forces . . . and even add some feathered new friends to the mix, to make something truly special.

The third book in the Great Mathemachicken chapter book series, combines *New York Times* bestselling author Nancy Krulik's trademark humor and clever wordplay with hilarious and lively two-color artwork from the incredibly talented Charlie Alder, to create an engrossing and charming STEAM-based adventure that will have young readers clucking for more.

Contributor Bio

Nancy Krulik is the author of more than 200 books for children and young adults, three of them *New York Times* bestsellers. Her series, including *How I Survived Middle School*, *Katie Kazoo Switcheroo*, *George Brown, Class Clown*, *Magic Bone*, *Project Droid*, *Princess Pulverizer*, and *Ms. Frogbottom's Field Trips*, are beloved around the world.

Nancy lives in Manhattan with her husband, composer Daniel Burwasser. Visit her online at www.realnancykrulik.com.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Author Hometown: Cherry Hill, NJ

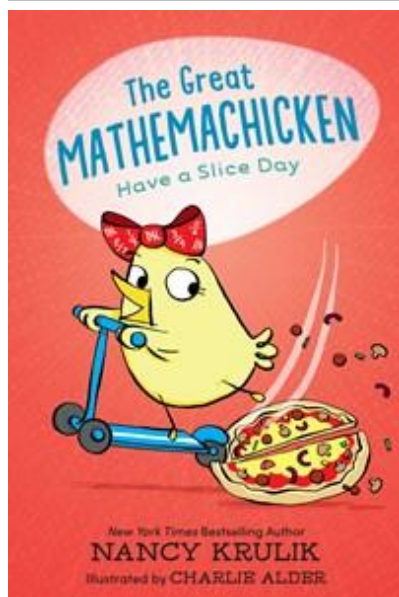
Charlie Alder has written and illustrated many books for children, including *Daredevil Duck* and *Chicken Break!* She lives in Devon, England, with her husband and son. When not drawing chickens, Charlie can be found in her studio drinking coffee, arranging her crayons, and inventing more accidental animal heroes.

Visit her online at www.charliealder.com.

Illustrator Residence: Devon England

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On Sale Date: 7/7/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

112 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



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On Sale Date: 12/16/2025
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

96 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: The Great Mathemachicken
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Great Mathemachicken 2: Have a Slice Day

Nancy Krulik, Charlie Alder

Summary

Now in paperback. Chirpy the chick makes a new friend who helps her discover how delicious fractions can be in the second book in *New York Times* bestselling author Nancy Krulik's series.

After her feats of math and science derring-do, Chirpy is the talk of the coop. So when the chicks face a new problem—Clucky greedily chomping down on all the chow—they turn to their Great Mathemachicken for help.

While looking for answers, Chirpy meets Quackers, a very curious duck, who has a lot of his own questions. The pair hops on the school bus to do some investigation, learning about reading and pizza, tally marks and fractions. And it turns out, fractions are yummy . . . and may be the answer to the chickens' coop conundrum.

This second book in the Great Mathemachicken chapter book series combines *New York Times* bestselling author Nancy Krulik's trademark humor and clever wordplay with hilarious and lively two-color artwork from the incredibly talented Charlie Alder. An engrossing STEM-based adventure that will have young readers clucking for more.

Series Overview: From international bestselling author Nancy Krulik, a chick with a love of learning uses her new math and science knowledge to solve big problems in the coop.

Contributor Bio

Nancy Krulik is the author of more than 200 books for children and young adults, three of them *New York Times* bestsellers. Her series, including *How I Survived Middle School*, *Katie Kazoo Switcheroo*, *George Brown, Class Clown*, *Magic Bone*, *Project Droid*, *Princess Pulverizer*, and *Ms. Frogbottom's Field Trips* are beloved around the world.

Nancy lives in Manhattan with her husband, composer Daniel Burwasser. Visit her online at www.realnancykrulik.com.

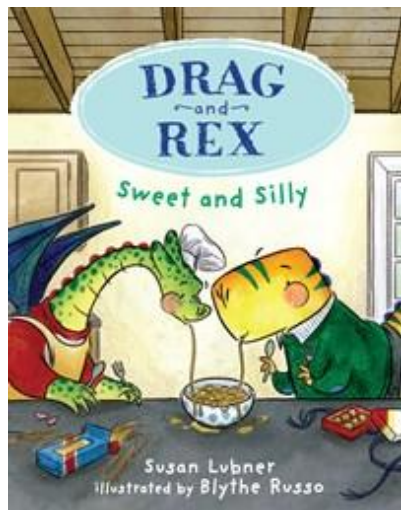
Author Residence: New York, New York

Author Hometown: Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Charlie Alder has written and illustrated many books for children, including *Daredevil Duck* and *Chicken Break!* She lives in Devon, England, with her husband and son. When not drawing chickens, Charlie can be found in her studio drinking coffee, arranging her crayons, and inventing more accidental animal heroes.

Visit her online at www.charliealder.com.

Illustrator Residence: Devon, England



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Pub Date: 9/16/2025
On Sale Date: 9/16/2025
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

64 Pages
Ages 6 to 8, Grades 1 to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
8.2 in H | 6.4 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Drag and Rex 2: Sweet and Silly

Susan Lubner, Blythe Russo

Summary

Now in paperback! Best friends Drag and Rex are back to cook up oodles more fun in the second book in a charming buddy series that reads like a modern FROG AND TOAD.

Drag is a devoted, daring, and dreamy dragon. Rex is a precise, practical, and patient T. Rex. Together, they always have tons of fun.

Whether it's coming up with the perfect Valentine's Day present, making the tricky decision of what to cook for dinner, or helping remember that really important thing that's just out of reach, as a team, they can face down any challenge. It's great to have a friend you can count on!

Sweet and Silly, the second book in the Drag and Rex series, features three stories told in short chapters, accompanied by bright, joy-filled full color illustrations, allowing developing readers to gain confidence and a sense of accomplishment as they giggle along with the silly antics of their favorite new friends.

Series Overview: A dragon and T-rex who are best friends explore the joys and challenges of adventures big and small in this young chapter book series told in short, charming stories.

Contributor Bio

Susan Lubner is the author of the middle grade novels *Lizzy and the Good Luck Girl* and *The Upside of Ordinary*, as well as three picture books. *Her Noises at Night*, co-authored with Beth Glass, was featured on the Today Show as a "Best Book for Young Children."

She grew up in Bangor, Maine, and currently lives in Massachusetts.

Author Residence: Wellesley, Massachusetts

Author Hometown: Bangor, Maine

Blythe Russo is an author-illustrator currently living just outside Cincinnati, Ohio. Her books include *Sloth Sleeps Over*, *Posie the Pika* by Paige Braddock, *A Flood of Kindness* by Ellen Leventhal, and *One More Wheel* by Colleen AF Venable. She holds a masters in illustration from the Savannah College of Art and Design and is an active member of SCBWI.

When she's not drawing, you can find her sewing, building puppets, or in the kitchen on a never-ending quest for the perfect chocolate chip cookie recipe.

Illustrator Residence: Loveland, OH



Pixel+Ink
9781645952695
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On Sale Date: 9/9/2025
\$16.99
Hardcover

240 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Famous Anonymous

Morgan Baden

Summary

The first book in a new series about neighborhood friends who find sudden fame with a series of viral videos... *only no one knows who they really are.* Hannah Montana for the TikTok generation.

Four kids from the same neighborhood, lifelong friends, throw on some costumes and make a funny video one night when their parents are out. One of them shares it with the group, another posts it on a TikTok-like social media, and suddenly the video blows up. Which makes the kids famous! Well, famous... and anonymous. Because no one can tell who they really are—and their parents must never find out. But their new fans want more content!

So the four friends go on to make a series of over-the-top videos that vault them into a new world of celebrity and influence. They feel the rush of attention and the power of their own creations, but also struggle to preserve their fame and their anonymity.

These books explore friendship, loyalty, and imagination, all while considering big questions that come up in a social media context, like: How do you protect your true self online? And is it ever really possible to be anonymous?

Contributor Bio

Morgan Baden is the coauthor (with acclaimed novelist Barry Lyga) of *The Hive*, a YA novel called “Brilliant!” by Walter Mosley. A bestselling ghostwriter, Morgan has taught courses at New York University’s SPS Center for Publishing, Writing, and Media and led many writing-focused workshops for teens and adults. Outside her life as an author, she’s an award-winning communications strategist. Morgan lives in New Jersey with her family and a house full of books.

Author Residence: Maplewood, NJ



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\$18.99
Hardcover

208 Pages
Ages 10 to 14, Grades 5 to 9
Juvenile Fiction / Performing Arts
Series: Cast vs. Crew

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Setting the Stage

Lindsay Champion

Summary

The full story of a junior high musical production, told exclusively from the POV of the kids backstage. It's *High School Musical*, from behind the scenes...without the high school.

Every cast depends on its stage crew. But what happens when they hate each other?

Eighth grader Ella Amani has been waiting her whole life to be the stage manager of the middle school musical, and *this is her year!*

Somehow she'll have to find jobs for Willow, who's doing stage crew instead of detention, and Sebastian, a shy sixth grader whose sister is the star of the show. She'll have to wrangle Kevin, the clumsy new kid who was homeschooled on a boat, and Levi, her best friend, who *used to* tell her everything.

Still, Ella's pretty sure she can handle the crew. The cast? That's a different story. They're ungrateful, they treat the crew like servants, and when Ella finally pushes back, they start playing pranks!

The first act in a trilogy, *Setting the Stage* is a behind-the-scenes look at the *drama* of drama club from the crew's point of view.

Contributor Bio

Lifelong theater geek Lindsay Champion made her stage debut as a tiger in her second-grade musical. Since then, she's built sets, run the light board, operated the spotlight and (her favorite) stage managed. She is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and was the Features Editor at Broadway.com. She is the author of the YA novel *Someday, Somewhere*.

Author Residence: New York, NY



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\$11.99
Trade Paperback

368 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &
Detective Stories
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Winterton Deception 2: Fault Lines

Janet Sumner Johnson

Summary

Now in paperback. A kidnapping, a clue hunt, lots of family tension, and a literary find for the ages weave together in the thrilling second book of the Winterton Deception. Perfect for fans of *Knives Out*, *The Inheritance Games*, and *The Westing Game*.

After the incredible events of the last official Winterton Bee, Hope and Gordon Smith have discovered that having an extended family isn't so bad . . . and maybe their famous relatives' lives aren't so charmed. But Hope is still hiding a secret, and it's a big one.

When Elizabeth Springer goes missing just before the Winterton's big Thanksgiving celebration—their first reunion since the spelling bee—Hope knows it's time to come clean. But none of the Winterton clan want to hear it. Worse, they accuse Hope of making up the whole thing as an attention-grab.

Poised to give up on her new-found family, Hope gets a cryptic coded letter with instructions on how to find James Winterton—her long-estranged grandfather. What's more, the letter hints that the Wintertons had more secrets than just a hidden treasure. Now Hope and Gordon face the impossible task of convincing their family to find the man they want to see least, in order to save the woman who's been lying to them for years.

With even more family intrigue and peppered with delicious literary what-ifs, the second installment in the middle grade The Winterton Deception series delivers another twisty, electric puzzle mystery young sleuths will eagerly devour.

Contributor Bio

Janet Sumner Johnson is the author of both middle grade novels and picture books, including *The Last Great Adventure of the PB&J Society* and *The Recess Genius* series. Her debut picture book, *Help Wanted: Must Love Books* was the winner of the 2021 CLEL Bell Picture Book Award and was nominated for the Colorado and Washington Children's Choice Book Awards. She lives in northern Utah with her husband, three kids, and a dog. When she isn't writing, she loves eating cookies, playing the piano, and singing along with the radio at the top of her lungs. Janet secretly dreams of finding a lost treasure that would otherwise be lost to history. You can learn more about her and her books at JanetSumnerJohnson.com.

Author Residence: North Logan, UT

Author Hometown: Santa Rosa, CA



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On Sale Date: 11/18/2025
\$10.99
Trade Paperback

256 Pages
Ages 10 And Up, Grades 5 And Up
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Team Canteen 1: Rocky Road

Amalie Jahn

Summary

Now in paperback. A hot pink boa that might be magic bonds 4 unlikely friends from summer camp and gives them the courage to face down the challenges they face back home. This sassy, diverse series debut for tweens is perfect for fans of *XO, Kitty*, *The Baby-Sitters Club*, and *Julie and the Phantoms*.

On the final night of summer camp, Tasha, Raelynn, Claire, and Billie get busted stuffing themselves with ice cream in the mess hall's walk-in freezer. But when they slip away without being punished, they're convinced the pink feather boa Billie put on to stay warm is magic.

Back at home, each member of Team Canteen tests the boa's powers as they face their own challenges. When her little cousin moves in, Tasha struggles to find her place inside her adoptive family. Claire's scared the kids at school will find out how hard life's gotten since her dad lost his job. Raelynn longs to be someone other than her sister's twin. And with a hockey-obsessed family, Billie's worried he'll never be able share his dream of becoming a figure skater.

It's going to be a rocky road from the start of the school year back to Camp Happy Hollow. Will the boa continue to protect Team Canteen, or will their friendship end up being the most magical find of all?

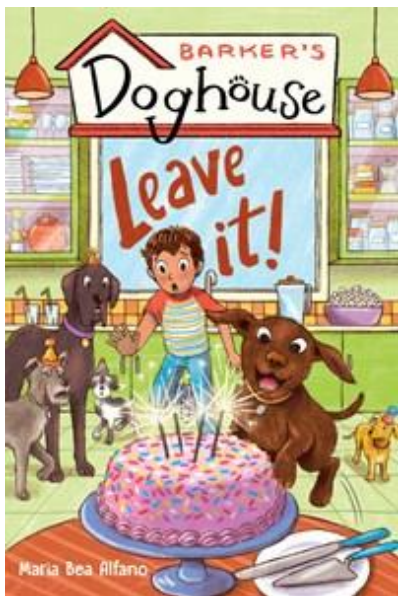
Alternating chapters among the friends, *Rocky Road* is a smart, soaring celebration of the highs and lows of middle school and the unbreakable friendships that see you through.

Story Locale: Camp: Western Pennsylvania; Toronto, Canada; Tampa, Florida; Seattle, Washington suburbs; rural Virginia

Contributor Bio

USA Today bestselling author Amalie Jahn is the recipient of the Literary Classics Seal of Approval and the Readers' Favorite Gold Medal for her debut YA novel, *The Clay Lion*. Her first YA contemporary, *The Next to Last Mistake*, won the prestigious IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award in 2020 and *A Walk Between Raindrops* was selected by *Kirkus* as one of the Best Indie Books of 2023. A TED speaker, human rights advocate, and active promoter of kindness, she lives in North Carolina with her husband, two children, and three extremely overfed cats.

Author Residence: Charlotte, NC



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\$7.99
Trade Paperback

160 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Barker's Doghouse 2: Leave It!

Maria Bea Alfano, Laura Catalán

Summary

The second book in a charming and funny early middle grade series about a boy finding his way in a new place with the help of some talking dogs. A little bit *New Kid*, a little bit *Secret Life of Pets*.

None of the daycare dogs are happy when they hear that Julie, Gio's mom, will be taking in a foster puppy. Puppies destroy everything, the older dogs tell Gio. Their tiny teeth are lethal!

But Gio, of course, has a special power to help Bean, the pup, get acclimated. He can talk her through everything! Soon his mom thinks he's a genius with the pup, and his reward will be a special birthday trip back to his old neighborhood.

The only thing is that Gio's new friends are planning a party for him at the same time. So, just as Bean must learn to leave things alone, Gio must think about learning to leave some parts of his past behind. Maybe this year is a good time to start some new birthday traditions?

Contributor Bio

Maria Bea Alfano is a freelance writer, artist, and sometimes educator. She has written how-to-draw books for major licensed brands such as Pokémon, Dragonball Z, and Trollz. She has taught art and soccer to preschoolers in NYC, English to middle-schoolers in Spain, reading to first-graders via an online tutoring platform, and writing workshops to adults via SCBWI. When she's not working to inspire curiosity in kids, she can be found in the pottery studio and on the soccer field. She lives in New York City with her doggie BFF who loves to hike, train in agility, and befriend strangers. This is Maria's first fiction series.

Author Residence: New York, NY



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9781645951346
Pub Date: 10/28/2025
On Sale Date: 10/28/2025
\$10.99
Trade Paperback

416 Pages
Ages 10 And Up, Grades 5 And Up
Juvenile Fiction / Science Fiction
Series: Plotting the Stars
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Plotting the Stars 3: Ashgarden

Michelle A. Barry

Summary

Now in paperback. Cast into a dangerous new world and separated from her friends, Myra uncovers secrets and lies the Governing Council has been cultivating for centuries. The third book in the searing STEAM-inspired Plotting the Stars middle grade series perfect for fans of *The City of Ember* and *Divergent*.

Out of the ashes, change will grow.

Thrown on a ship on a one-way voyage to uninhabitable Earth, Myra, Hannah, and Bernard believe they'll never see their home or the people they care about again. After crash landing, they're attacked, sedated, and dragged away . . . by people? There are still *people* on Earth? It turns out, the Old World is inhabited by Botans and many generations of their offspring. And that means maybe Canter's mother and Hannah's sister might be there, too.

Back on Venus, Canter and Lila have an insider spying on MFI's operations and are biding their time, waiting for the right moment to expose Melfin's treachery before he risks more than just the Settlement food supply.

Will Myra and her friends cultivate a new future from the ruins of the old, or have they ignited an inferno that will destroy all they hold dear?

The third book in the Plotting the Stars series, *Ashgarden* burns with determination, exploring the devastating possibilities of climate change and the power of the young voices fighting for something better.

Contributor Bio

Michelle A. Barry is the author of *Moongarden* and *Seagarden*, the first two books in the Plotting the Stars series. Born and raised in Springfield, Massachusetts, she now resides in Connecticut with her husband and their two children. Visit her online at michellebarrybooks.com.

Author Residence: Connecticut

Author Hometown: Springfield, Massachusetts



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304 Pages
Ages 10 And Up, Grades 5 And Up
Juvenile Fiction / Family

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Second Favorite Daughters Club 1: Sister Sabotage

Colleen Oakes

Summary

Now in paperback. For fans of *Sisters* and Netflix's *The Baby-sitter's Club*, a contemporary series for the siblings who always come in last.

Santana Barnes is tired of playing second fiddle to her ballet protégé, honor student older sister Victoria. Casey Hammond is sick of her cute-as-a-button, adventurous little sister Sage, who steals all of their dad's attention.

When the girls meet in their middle school library, they learn they have a lot in common: they both love reading, they hate after-school activities, and most important, they are clearly their parents' second-favorite children.

So they create the Second Favorite Daughters Club. The mission? To become their parents' favorite children by undermining their love-hoarding siblings. But is it possible to cheat your way to becoming your parents' favorite? And is being in the spotlight really what they want after all?

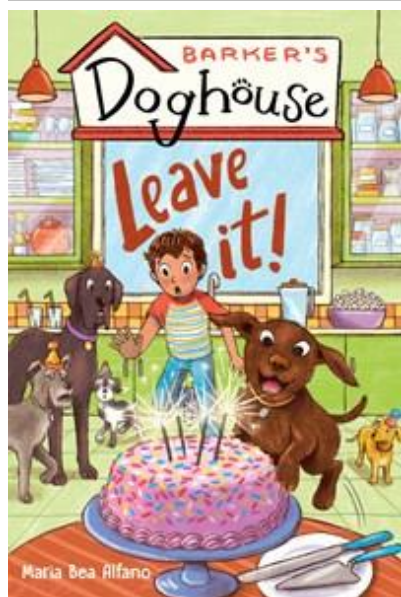
Bestselling author Colleen Oakes's middle grade debut *SISTER SABOTAGE* is a celebration of friendship and family in all its challenging forms, and a reminder that there's no one way to stand out.

Contributor Bio

Colleen Oakes is the bestselling author of books for both teens and adults, including the acclaimed *Queen of Hearts* series, *The Black Coats*, *Wendy Darling*, and the upcoming *Eleven Houses*. Her work has been featured in the *HuffPost*, *Entertainment Weekly*, the *Denver Post* and more. *The Second Favorite Daughters Club* is her first middle grade novel. Colleen recently moved to Connecticut with her husband and son and is eager to explore New England. When not lurking in the back of a coffee shop or planning a trip, she surrounds herself with lovely humans, true crime podcasts and two golden retrievers. She is currently at work on her memoir and an adult thriller. You can visit her webpage at colleennoakes.org or visit her on Instagram at [@colleennoakes](https://www.instagram.com/colleennoakes).

Author Residence: Danbury, Connecticut

Author Hometown: Denver, Colorado



Pixel+Ink
9781645952725
Pub Date: 11/11/2025
On Sale Date: 11/11/2025
\$16.99
Hardcover

160 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Barker's Doghouse 2: Leave It!

Maria Bea Alfano, Laura Catalán

Summary

The second book in a charming and funny early middle grade series about a boy finding his way in a new place with the help of some talking dogs. A little bit *New Kid*, a little bit *Secret Life of Pets*.

None of the daycare dogs are happy when they hear that Julie, Gio's mom, will be taking in a foster puppy. Puppies destroy everything, the older dogs tell Gio. Their tiny teeth are lethal!

But Gio, of course, has a special power to help Bean, the pup, get acclimated. He can talk her through everything! Soon his mom thinks he's a genius with the pup, and his reward will be a special birthday trip back to his old neighborhood.

The only thing is that Gio's new friends are planning a party for him at the same time. So, just as Bean must learn to leave things alone, Gio must think about learning to leave some parts of his past behind. Maybe this year is a good time to start some new birthday traditions?

Contributor Bio

Maria Bea Alfano is a freelance writer, artist, and sometimes educator. She has written how-to-draw books for major licensed brands such as Pokémon, Dragonball Z, and Trollz. She has taught art and soccer to preschoolers in NYC, English to middle-schoolers in Spain, reading to first-graders via an online tutoring platform, and writing workshops to adults via SCBWI. When she's not working to inspire curiosity in kids, she can be found in the pottery studio and on the soccer field. She lives in New York City with her doggie BFF who loves to hike, train in agility, and befriend strangers. This is Maria's first fiction series.

Author Residence: New York, NY



Templar
9781536243970
Pub Date: 10/28/2025
On Sale Date: 10/28/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

40 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
11.3 in H | 9.8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Boy, the Troll, and the Chalk

Anne Booth, David Litchfield

Summary

A touching picture book about the power of art and imagination

*Everybody knew that a big fierce troll lived in the cave.
"Leave me alone!" it yelled.
So everybody did.*

But one child cannot turn his back on the troll at the edge of the playground. One day, he takes his chalk up to the mouth of the cave. He draws a flower with every petal colored in but one and leaves the chalk behind. The next day, the flower has been completed. Day by day, the boy and the troll finish each other's drawings, until they each draw a portrait showing a boy holding hands with a fierce, scary troll. "But you're not a troll," says the boy. "You're a boy—just like me." Patience, kindness, and the power of art win out in the end: the two boys wordlessly draw together. Soon all the other children gather to join in with the game. Everyone forgets that there was a troll inside the cave. Because outside the cave, there is so much to draw. Award-winning artist David Litchfield's illustrations bring life and color to this gentle tale of hope and friendship by Anne Booth.

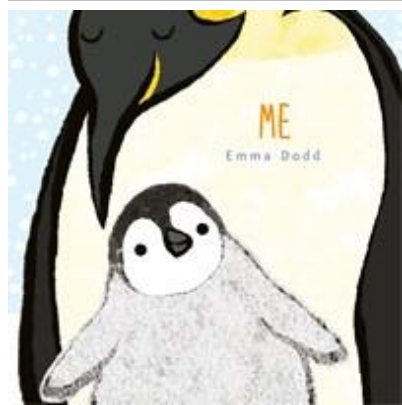
Contributor Bio

Anne Booth is the author of many books for children, including *Refuge*, illustrated by Sam Usher, and *Little Cloud*, illustrated by Sarah Massini. Anne Booth lives in England.

Author Residence: England

David Litchfield is an award-winning illustrator and author. He is the illustrator of several picture books, including *When Paul Met Artie: The Story of Simon and Garfunkel*, written by G. Neri, and *Rain Before Rainbows* and *Peace on Earth*, both written by Smriti Prasadam-Halls. He is also the author and illustrator of *The Bear and the Piano*, which won the Waterstones Children's Book Prize. His work has appeared in magazines, newspapers, and books and on T-shirts, and he has exhibited his illustrations in Europe and America. David Litchfield lives in England.

Illustrator Residence: England



Templar
9781536243376
Pub Date: 10/14/2025
On Sale Date: 10/14/2025
\$10.99
Board Book

22 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Emma Dodd's Love You
Books
8 in H | 8 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Me

Emma Dodd

Summary

A heartfelt story of the bond between parent and child

*The ocean is deep . . .
and I am small.
The mountains are steep . . .
and I am small.*

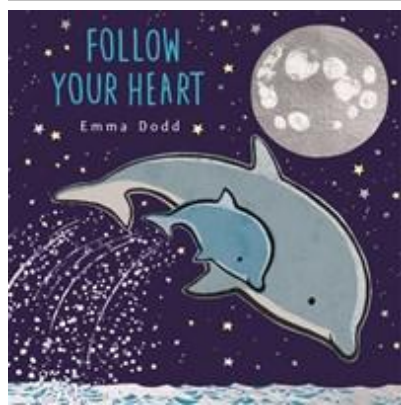
Originally published in 2010, this charming story from best-selling creator Emma Dodd is now available as a padded board book. Readers meet a little penguin who feels lost in a big world but discovers that, to their parent, they are a very big penguin indeed.

Contributor Bio

Emma Dodd has created many books to critical acclaim. She works from a studio in England. When not working, she and her family spend as much time as they can surfing and walking in all weather.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Templar
9781536243987
Pub Date: 12/2/2025
On Sale Date: 12/2/2025
\$10.99
Board Book

22 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Emma Dodd's Love You
Books
8 in H | 8 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Follow Your Heart

Emma Dodd

Summary

An inspirational book about the importance of letting your heart show you the way—now available as a padded board book!

*Each day that dawns
brings a fresh new start.
Adventures await
when you follow your heart.*

This board book from best-selling creator Emma Dodd has a heartwarming and uplifting message about staying true to yourself. The story features a dolphin calf who learns to listen to their heart as they grow.

Contributor Bio

Emma Dodd has created many books to critical acclaim. She works from a studio in England. When not working, she and her family spend as much time as they can surfing and walking in all weather.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Templar
9781536243956
Pub Date: 9/30/2025
On Sale Date: 9/30/2025
\$17.99
Hardcover

24 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Emma Dodd's Love You
Books
7.9 in H | 7.9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Winter Is Wonderful

Emma Dodd

Summary

A sweet, snowy celebration of the festive season from the beloved creator Emma Dodd

*We snuggle together
under the stars,
and we are reminded
how lucky we are.*

An adorable fox family embraces the joy of being together during the most magical time of the year. This story from best-selling creator Emma Dodd has a heartwarming message that's perfect for the season. With foil throughout, this story would make a great gift for sharing with someone you love.

Contributor Bio

Emma Dodd has created many books to critical acclaim. She works from a studio in England. When not working, she and her family spend as much time as they can surfing and walking in all weather.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Walker Books US
9781536230062
Pub Date: 12/9/2025
On Sale Date: 12/9/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Family
10.6 in H | 9.6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Shaped by Love: An Ode to Mom Bods

Nikki Powers, Amanda Calatzis

Summary

Intimate, inclusive, and brimming with bold colors, this tribute to the physical and emotional bond between mother and child is the perfect gift for new parents to treasure and share.

Before babies enter the world and arrive in their parents' arms, they are held inside their mothers. Mother and child grow strong as one, nourished by love. Moms imagine the little ones they carry inside, dream of them, wait and long for them, and when those babies arrive, a mother's body eases their hunger, heals their hurt, and holds and soothes them when they are sad. As the years pass and mother and child grow and change, their bodies change with them—altered by time and tenderness, courage and joy. Lyrical text and warm, energetic illustrations track the evolution of a timeless bond in the lives of diverse families. Destined to be a go-to gift for new or soon-to-be parents, this portrait of the physical and emotional journey through giving birth, parenthood, and aging is a love letter to families of all kinds.

Contributor Bio

Nikki Powers lives in Minnesota with her husband and children. This is her first picture book.

Author Residence: Minnesota

Amanda Calatzis is the author-illustrator of *Khalida and the Most Beautiful Song* and illustrator of the board book *Are You My Cutie Patootie?* by Monique Aiken and the picture book *Mister Rogers' Gift of Music* by Donna Cangelosi. She lives in New York's Hudson Valley.

Illustrator Residence: Pine Island, NY



Walker Books US
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\$17.99
Hardcover

192 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Books &
Libraries
9 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Donutella Hamachi and the Library Avengers

Kim Chi, Stephan Lee, Utomaru

Summary

From drag sensation and star of *RuPaul's Drag Race* Kim Chi and the acclaimed author of the K-Pop Confidential books comes a contemporary superhero series about a community coming together, fabulously, to save a local library.

For twelve-year-old Korean immigrant Jae Han, the library is more than a place to check out books. It's a safe space to work on his comic book featuring drag superhero Donutella Hamachi, play video games to improve his English, and befriend other outcast kids sheltering among the stacks. When the mayor announces plans to demolish the building and pave a mall parking lot, Jae Han pleads with his friend the librarian to intervene. But even if the mayor doesn't shutter the library, Ms. Henny reveals, a funding deficit will. Called to action, Jae Han rallies his ragtag group of friends to halt the destruction of their haven. Can they—with help from the sparkling Donutella Hamachi—unite long enough to defeat the slime-shooting blobfish enveloping screaming citizens in goo (i.e., ace a fundraising campaign)? Filled with diabolical plots and empowerment aplenty, this lively foray into the heart of a town's darkness, sprinkled through with hilarious graphic panels, will delight superhero fans, comic book creators, and anyone who has felt outside the mainstream—and perfectly at home in a library.

Contributor Bio

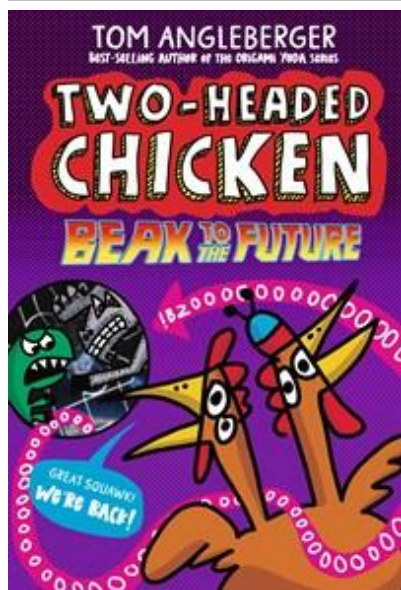
Stephan Lee is the author of the K-Pop Confidential books and the young adult romance *Paris in a Heartbeat*. He currently works in content at Netflix and was formerly an entertainment journalist for *Entertainment Weekly* and *Bustle*. He lives in Los Angeles.

Kim Chi is a Korean American drag queen, artist, entrepreneur, and television personality best known for competing on the eighth season of *RuPaul's Drag Race*. Kim Chi lives in Los Angeles.

Author Residence: Japan

Utomaru is a Tokyo-based illustrator, art director, and graphic designer whose credits include character design on *Muteking the Dancing Hero*, a reboot of a classic anime series, and illustrating the Kitty Sweet Tooth graphic novel series. She studied graphic design at Tama Art University, and her main influences are cartoons by Fleischer Studios and Tex Avery and movie posters from the 1960s to the 1980s as well as American and Japanese comics and animation.

Illustrator Residence: Japan



Walker Books US
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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

208 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: Two-Headed Chicken
8.5 in H | 5.8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Two-Headed Chicken: Beak to the Future

Tom Angleberger

Summary

"Among the infinite universes of the multiverse, anything is possible . . . even time travel. . . . The various antics and shenanigans are funny and well served by the dynamic art." —Kirkus Reviews

The two-headed chicken is back, with twice the adventure, twice the jokes, and a lot more heads (wait, did they just accidentally turn into a double-headed space snake?). Having lost the Astrocap™ somewhere in the multiverse, our intrepid hero dons the Timecap™ to scour the timestream, which looks a lot like broccoli, in search of it. But danger and drama await with every time-hopping *POOZB!* of the Timecap™, including hungry dinosaurs, fierce werewolves, poet Emily Dickinson, a fish with a mustache who wants to talk about feelings, and even the return of the chicken's archenemy, Kernel Antlers, the shape-shifting moose! With lively art and quirky nods to history and literature, readers will be swept along for oodles of zany escapades—and brought into the book itself through games, puzzles, drawing activities, and even as a vital character. Tom Angleberger's absurdist humor shines on every page of this nonstop ride.

Contributor Bio

Tom Angleberger is the author and illustrator of many children's books, including the Origami Yoda series, which has sold millions of copies worldwide. He lives in Virginia with his wife, Cece Bell.

Author Residence: Christiansburg, VA

Illustrator Residence: Christiansburg, VA



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\$14.99
Hardcover

208 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Comics & Graphic Novels
Series: Two-Headed Chicken
8.5 in H | 5.8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Two-Headed Chicken: Chaos in the Cosmic Library

Tom Angleberger

Summary

It's nonstop goofy comedy as Two-Headed Chicken invades other books in this third graphic novel adventure from *New York Times* best-selling creator Tom Angleberger.

Our zany hero, Two-Headed Chicken, has traveled the multiverse using the AstroCap and romped through the chronoverse using the TimeCap. Now they dare to ask: What happens if they use both caps at the same time? Answer: Chaos! Unfortunately, the chaos is so ridiculous that the reader slams their book closed, trapping the double-noggined main character in eternal darkness. But wait! Two-Headed Chicken escapes into the Cosmic Library, which contains every book ever written. Now, still pursued by the chicken-hungry moose Kernel Antlers, Two-Headed Chicken hops their way through a parade of familiar titles, from a hundred-acre wood to a kissy vampire novel, interacting with the befuddled characters and leaving mayhem in their wake. With interactive puzzles and activities and wall-to-wall jokes, Tom Angleberger delivers another absurdist delight in this madcap series.

Contributor Bio

Tom Angleberger is the author and illustrator of many children's books, including the Origami Yoda series, which has sold millions of copies worldwide. He lives in Virginia with his wife, Cece Bell.

Author Residence: Christiansburg, VA

Illustrator Residence: Christiansburg, VA



Walker Books US
9781536244472
Pub Date: 10/7/2025
On Sale Date: 10/7/2025
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

224 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Shadow Fox

Carlie Sorosiak

Summary

**"An appealing combination of animal magic and low-key hero fantasy."
—Kirkus Reviews**

Shadow the fox does not trust humans. Well, except for Nan, who feeds her chunks of fish behind a lakeside motel every night. When Nan goes missing, a man from the mysterious Whistlenorth Island comes ashore to seek the aid of Nan's granddaughter, Bee, whom he thinks is destined not only to help Nan, but also to save Whistlenorth from the greedy and destructive Night Islanders. The plans go topsy-turvy when it becomes obvious that Bee does not have the magic powers of a chosen one—but Shadow does! Can a fox really rescue an island of people? As Shadow grudgingly comes to trust her new human companions, she and Bee develop a mystical bond, a special connection between human and animal that might be the key to driving the Night Islanders from Whistlenorth for good. This enchanting adventure is narrated by Shadow herself, whose mind is unflinchingly "fox" and whose spirit is charming and bold.

Contributor Bio

Carlie Sorosiak is the author of the acclaimed novels *Always, Clementine*; *I, Cosmo*; and *Leonard (My Life as a Cat)*, as well as the picture books *Everywhere with You*, illustrated by Devon Holzwarth, and *Books Aren't for Eating*, illustrated by Manu Montoya. She lives in Georgia with her husband and their American dingo.

Author Residence: Marietta, GA



Walker Books US
9781536242683
Pub Date: 12/2/2025
On Sale Date: 12/2/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

288 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Art
7.8 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Stolen Songbird

Judith Eagle, Jo Rioux

Summary

When Caro finds a stolen masterpiece in her missing mother's suitcase, she's thrust into a thrilling art-heist caper in 1950s London.

When Caro Monday's mother disappears on one of her jaunts across the globe, Caro is forced to stay with her miserable great-aunt all the way across town. To make matters worse, Caro's beloved rabbit, His Nibs, isn't allowed to come with her. Of course, Caro sneaks him into her aunt's strict household anyway. Although Caro's wild behavior exasperates her dour aunt, she never dreamed of the trouble she finds herself in when she discovers a small painting of a thrush hidden in the lining of her suitcase—a stolen masterwork that some dangerous art thieves are desperately searching for! Catapulted into a caper with more twists and turns than the alleys of London, Caro and her friends, including budding fashion designer Horace, expert knitter Albie, and a wise "gentleman of the road"—not to mention His Nibs himself—must unravel a decades-old mystery and return the purloined picture before the thieves hunt them down. Plenty of surprises and a diverse cast of memorable characters await in this rousing art-themed adventure.

Contributor Bio

Judith Eagle's career has included stints as a stylist, fashion editor, and features writer. She now spends her mornings writing and her afternoons working in a secondary school library. She is the author of *The Secret Starling*, *The Pear Affair*, and *The Accidental Stowaway*, all illustrated by Jo Rioux. Judith Eagle lives with her family and her cat, Stockwell, in South London.

Author Residence: England

Jo Rioux is the illustrator of *The Secret Starling*, *The Pear Affair*, and *The Accidental Stowaway*, all by Judith Eagle. She has illustrated young adult novels, chapter books, picture books, and graphic novels. She is the author-illustrator of the Cat's Cradle series and the illustrator of *The Daughters of Ys* by M. T. Anderson. Jo Rioux lives in Ottawa.

Illustrator Residence: Ontario, CAN



Walker Books US
9781536244410
Pub Date: 11/18/2025
On Sale Date: 11/18/2025
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

304 Pages
Ages 10 to 14, Grades 5 to 9
Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &
Detective Stories
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Bringing Back Kay-Kay

Dev Kothari

Summary

"It's a mystery, but it's so much more than that. . . . Read it!" —Nizrana Farook, author of *The Girl Who Stole an Elephant*

When her older brother, Karthik—Kay-Kay, the golden child of the family—heads to camp for two weeks, Lena's parents begin showering her with all the attention she craves. For a time, *she's* the golden child and secretly wishes her brother wouldn't come home. But when the scheduled train arrives and Karthik isn't on it, Lena is stricken with guilt and fear for her beloved Kay-Kay. Her brother has vanished without a trace, and the police view him as a runaway. Incredulous, Lena undertakes a search of her own—reading mysterious poems left in his backpack, interrogating his fellows from the train, retracing his route, and encountering shadowy strangers along the way. Convinced Kay-Kay is still alive even when the rest of her family has given up, Lena steadily unearths her brother's secrets as her determination to bring him home leads to a heart-stopping discovery. Perhaps Kay-Kay isn't a golden child after all? Set in a vividly evoked modern-day India, this character-driven middle-grade mystery tackles rich themes—from the sibling bond to self-worth—in a taut and suspenseful adventure.

Contributor Bio

Dev Kothari is a poet and writer who earned an MA in children's writing from Bath Spa University. She grew up in India reading British mysteries and thrillers and now lives in England. *Bringing Back Kay-Kay* is her debut novel.

Author Residence: England



Walker Books US
9781536249590
Pub Date: 12/2/2025
On Sale Date: 12/2/2025
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

288 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Art
7.8 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

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Judith Eagle, Jo Rioux

Summary

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Walker Books US
9781536247077
Pub Date: 11/4/2025
On Sale Date: 11/4/2025
\$11.99
Trade Paperback

240 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Fantasy
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Changeover

Margaret Mahy

Summary

Fans of romantasy rejoice! The Carnegie Medal–winning novel by internationally best-selling author Margaret Mahy is back in a new edition, introduced by *New York Times* best-selling author Caroline O’Donoghue.

Laura’s little brother, Jacko, is fighting for his life after being marked by the sinister storekeeper Carmody Braque. Laura knows there is only one way to save Jacko: she must seek the help of Sorensen, a brooding male witch in her class, and use his supernatural powers to change into a witch herself. For admirers of Caroline O’Donoghue, fans of fantasy romance, and collectors of great young adult literature comes a return of the celebrated novel that helped spawn a genre.

Contributor Bio

Margaret Mahy (1936–2012) was based in New Zealand and has been internationally recognized for her outstanding work as a children’s author. She wrote more than two hundred books for children of all ages and is a two-time winner of the Carnegie Medal. She was the recipient of an Order of New Zealand, the highest honor a citizen can receive, and in 2006 she received the Hans Christian Andersen Award for her contributions to international children’s literature.



Walker Books US
9781536247862
Pub Date: 11/4/2025
On Sale Date: 11/4/2025
\$18.99
Hardcover

240 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Fantasy
9 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

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Margaret Mahy

Summary

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Contributor Bio

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