



# HOLIDAY HOUSE

Books for Young People

SUMMER 2025



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Holiday House  
9780823460458  
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\$8.99  
Board Book

26 Pages  
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under  
Juvenile Fiction / Business,  
Careers, Occupations  
6 in H | 4.8 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

## Crane Jane!

Andrea Zimmerman, Dan Yaccarino

### Key Selling Points

- **BIG MACHINES, BIG FUN:** For the toddler who loves staring at big trucks and machines as they drive by.
- **FEATURING BLUE-COLLAR JOB:** The book celebrates crane operators and blue-collar work often not featured as important.
- **FEMINIST SERIES NOW IN BOARD BOOK:** Big Jobs, Bold Women spotlights strong women in tough hands-on jobs. *Firefighter Flo!* comes out as a board book in Spring 2025.
- **3rd BOARD BOOK COMING:** *Plumber Pearl!* will be in board book in Fall 2025
- **BRIGHT ART, BOLD SOUND:** Bold, dynamic art captures the swinging crates while loud, big onomatopoeia leaps across the page.
- **POWERHOUSE TEAM:** From Dan Yaccarino, Nickelodeon character designer for The Backyardigans, and Andrea Zimmerman, the best-selling author and illustrator team of *Trashy Town*, an ALA Notable Children's Book with over 30,000 copies sold.

### Summary

**Can a crane operator save the day? Yes, she can! From the best-selling author and illustrator team of *Trashy Town*, comes a Big Jobs, Bold Women board book perfect for toddlers who love big machines.**

*Hook it, lift it, off the ground  
Easy, careful, swing it 'round.  
Clunk!  
Phew! Good job.*

Crane Jane punches the clock at the dock, then climbs into her tall, tall crane. She's ready for a day of lifting cargo from ships to dry land. Then comes Jane's biggest challenge of all—a firetruck! But when high winds send her load swinging, Jane uses all her skill to keep the crane under control. Toddlers will love the clang-clang! of the crane and toot-toot! of the ships!

This second board book in the Big Jobs, Bold Women series introduces toddlers to strong women in tough hands-on jobs. Crane Jane! 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*, *Crane Jane!* is the perfect read for truck and construction-obsessed toddlers.

Don't miss out on *Firefighter Flo!* board book too!

**Series Overview:** Big Jobs, Bold Women spotlights strong women in tough hands-on jobs.

### Contributor Bio

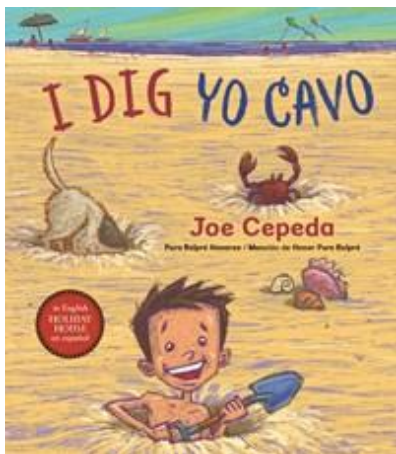
ANDREA ZIMMERMAN is the author of many beloved series including *Trashy Town* and *Smashy Town*, illustrated by Dan Yaccarino; the bestselling truck series *Bulldozer Friends*, *Digger Man*, *Fire Engine Man*, and *Train Man*; *All Buckled Up* and *All Dressed Up* (S&S/Little Simon); and *Dig!* illustrated 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

**Illustrator Hometown:**Clifton, NJ



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## I Dig / Yo cavo

Joe Cepeda

### Key Selling Points

- **AWARD WINNING AUTHOR:** Joe Cepeda's many honors include a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor, a Pura Belpré honor, Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Platinum Award, ALA Notable Books, and many more.
- **RIISING BILINGUAL HOUSEHOLDS:** In 2018, the Center for Immigration Studies found that 67.3 million residents in the United States now speak a language other than English at home, double the number of bilingual residents in 1990.
- **DIVERSITY IN BOARD BOOKS:** The book features a Latino boy and his brother
- **PERFECT TODDLER BEACH READ:** In the small, durable board book format, this summer beach adventure is perfect for parents to throw in the beach bag to entertain their toddler in the car, on the beach, or wherever their summer vacation takes them.
- **EARLIER IS BETTER:** Publications like Psychological Science report that our ability to learn language does decline as we age, making it essential to start as early as possible when raising a bilingual child.
- **A TEACHING TOOL:** The text compares the same phrase in English and Spanish, making it the perfect tool for parents or educators to introduce Spanish or English to the youngest readers.

### Summary

**Two brothers and a dog have fun at the beach in this bilingual board book from Theodor Seuss Geisel Honoree Joe Cepeda.**

When two brothers at the beach find a shovel, they use it to discover all sorts of fun in the sun.

*Look.*

*I dig.*

*I see a crab.*

*I see stars.*

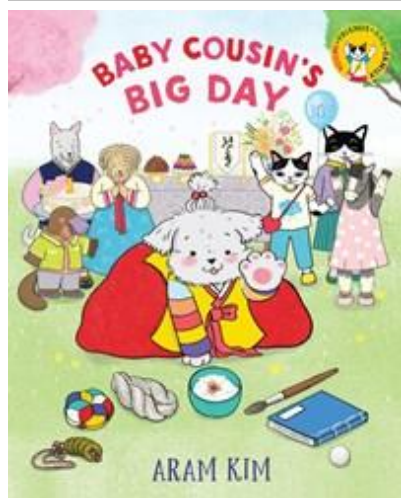
This story about exploring and discovery is perfect for the toddler who loves digging through the sandbox in search of treasure. Very simple, easy-to-read text appears in English and Spanish, side by side, and accompanies Joe Cepeda's bold, energetic artwork.

There's more bilingual adventures in *I Help / Yo ayudo* and *I Hop / Yo salto!*

### Contributor Bio

Joe Cepeda 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*, and *I Hop*. *I Hop* received a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor, given to the most distinguished books for beginning readers. Joe received an American Library Association Pura Belpré Honor (for outstanding books that celebrate the Latino cultural experience) and the Recognition of Merit Award from the George G. Stone Center for Children's Books. He lives in Claremont, California

**Author Residence:** Claremont, California



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& Pacific Islander  
Series: Yoomi, Friends, and Family  
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## Baby Cousin's Big Day

Aram Kim

### Key Selling Points

**SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL & CRITICAL THINKING CONTENT:** deals with empathy and questioning assumptions. **CULTURAL AUTHENTICITY:** Aram Kim, who grew up in South Korea, is an authentic voice for this story. Aram is very active in the literary community, with over 1,000 followers on both Instagram (@aramkimart) and Twitter (@StuidoAram). Like WATERCRESS (Caldecott Award and Newbery Honor), the child in Baby Cousin's Big Day questions, then connects with her heritage. **SPECIAL APPEAL FOR 1st & 2nd GEN AMERICAN CHILDREN:** Children of all backgrounds who experience the tug between their two cultures will appreciate Yoomi's concerns. **YOOMI FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** This is the fourth book in a series of picture books about a Korean girl and her loved ones. This book has the same main characters as Aram's *No Kimchi for Me!*, *Sunday Funday in Koreatown*, and *Let's Go to Taekwondo*.

### Summary

**Yoomi wants her baby cousin to be happy—on her 1st birthday and for the rest of her life. Can Yoomi help?**

The whole family is gathering to celebrate baby cousin's 1st birthday. They will do the doljabi! Dasom's mommy will assemble a microphone, a ball, money, yarn, a paintbrush, and other things. Dasom will pick something, and that will decide her future. If she picks a ball, she will be an athlete. If she picks a paintbrush, she will be an artist.

Yoomi is worried. What if Dasom picks a paintbrush and doesn't want to be an artist? Grandma assures Yoomi that Dasom can become whatever she wants—but maybe she will be a creative person, just like an artist.

Then baby Dasom's choice surprises everyone. She picks Yoomi!

Yoomi's concern displays empathy, and her questioning shows a girl exercising her critical thinking muscles in this delightful story about family customs and relationships.

YOOMI FRIENDS AND FAMILY is a picture book series about a Korean girl, her loved ones, and her culture. Other books in the series are *No Kimchi for Me!*, a Junior Library Guild selection and a Bank Street College Best Book of the Year, *Let's Go to Taekwondo: A Story About Persistence, Bravery, and Breaking Boards*, a Junior Library Guild Selection, and *Sunday Funday in Koreatown*, a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection.

### Contributor Bio

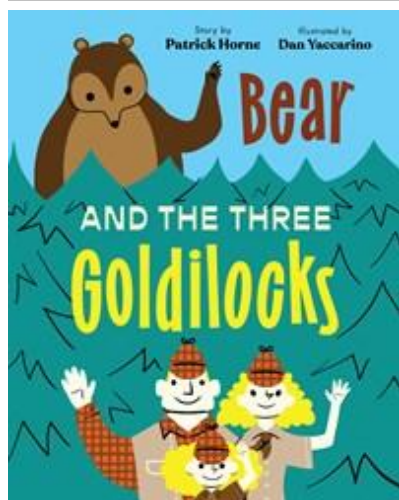
Aram Kim is a NY-based children's book author/illustrator and a picture book designer. She was born in Ohio, spent her childhood in South Korea, and now lives in Queens, NY. Aram brings a distinctive South Korean flair to works she creates. She is an advocate for diversity in children's literature, and creator of the Multicultural Children's Book Day poster for 2018.

Her debut picture book *Cat on the Bus* is an ILA/CBC Children's Choice. Her books in the Yoomi Friends and Family series are all Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selections and *No Kimchi for Me!* is a Bank Street College Best Book of the Year.

Aram has been invited to numerous book festivals and events to read and to talk about her creative process. She also holds workshops for people who want to create their own children's books. Visit [aramkim.com](http://aramkim.com).

**Author Residence:** Queens, NY

**Author Hometown:** South Korea



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Folklore  
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## Bear and the Three Goldilocks

Patrick Horne, Dan Yaccarino

### Key Selling Points

- **AWARD-WINNING ILLUSTRATOR:** Nickelodeon character designer for The Backyardigans and creator of Oswald, Dan Yaccarino's picture books have been on the Texas Bluebonnet list, the Kirkus' Best Children's Book List, The New York Times 10 Best Illustrated List and a Chicago Public Library Best Book.
- **TEACHING POTENTIAL:** Teachers and librarians can use *The Bear and the Three Goldilocks* as a companion book for lessons on character point of view and fractured fairy tales.
- **MODERN TAKE ON A CLASSIC FAVORITE:** Fans of folk tales will be delighted by this contemporary, spunky revival of Goldilocks and the Three Bears that introduces modern life to our three favorite bears.
- **A SILLY CELEBRATION OF CAMPING:** Families of girl scouts, boy scouts, and all outdoorsy kids will want this book in their home libraries for hiking trips and campfire nights.
- **READ-ALOUD JOY:** With Patrick Horne's witty voice and Dan Yaccarino's humorous, cartoon-esque illustrations, young children will be requesting this bedtime story every night!
- **DEBUT AUTHOR**

### Summary

**You'll laugh out loud at this funny fractured folktale with pictures by a popular artist!**

The Goldilocks family leave their campsite to go on a hike while their s'mores cool off . . . when along comes Bear.

"What's that yummy smell?" Bear wonders. S'mores, of course: too gooey, too chocolatey . . . and just right! Bear eats them all.

Bear continues to wreak havoc by breaking a chair, smashing musical instruments, and extinguishing the fire. When the Goldilocks return, they are flabbergasted. They try to make a lot of noise to shoo away the bear . . . when Mama Bear and Papa Bear show up. Mama and Papa apologize profusely for the behavior of their naughty offspring, but the Goldilocks don't speak "Bear." They just hear a lot of LOUD GROWLING. So they decide to hightail it out of there, and the Bear family gets to enjoy the tents and snacks that are left behind.

This hilarious story, a perfect readaloud, and its hilarious pictures will delight children and parents alike.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

Patrick Horne loves bringing humor to heartfelt stories about the everyday experiences that kids encounter. Patrick lives in Texas, where he teaches fitness at a trilingual charter school. He has three rascally sons, a loving wife and a fear of stepping on legos. *Bear and the Three Goldilocks* is his debut as an author.

### Author Residence: Texas

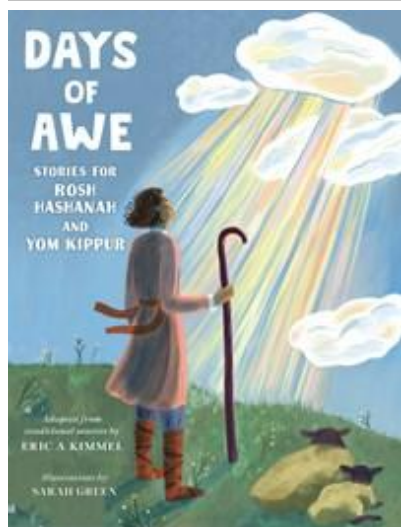
Dan Yaccarino is an author-illustrator who has been named to the Texas Bluebonnet list for *The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau*, Kirkus' Best Children's Book List for *All the Way To America*, The New York Times 10 Best Illustrated List and the *Bologna Ragazzi for Every Friday*. His picture 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). He is also the illustrator of Holiday House picture books *Firefighter Flo!*, *Plumber Pearl!* and *Crane Jane!*

**Illustrator Residence:**Kearny, NJ

**Illustrator Hometown:**Clifton, NJ



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Juvenile Fiction / Religious  
10 in H | 7.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Days of Awe

Eric A. Kimmel, Sarah Green

### Key Selling Points

- **UNDER-REPRESENTED JEWISH HOLIDAY:** Although Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah are the most significant days on the Jewish calendar, there is comparatively little available for children that speaks to the meaning of these holidays.
- **CONTEMPORARY, NEW EDITION:** The original edition in '91 was well-reviewed and went through many reprintings, but has long been unavailable. Our new edition has fresh art and modern design and is ready to uplift a new generation.
- **NONFICTION CONNECTION:** Includes a forward on the meaning and rituals of the High Holy Days and a source note on the inspirations for the three original tales.
- **EARLY ENDORSEMENT:** Features a cover quote from Nathan Englander, author of *What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank*.
- **AWARD-WINNING JEWISH FOLKLORIST:** A Sydney Taylor Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, Eric A. Kimmel has shared Jewish stories with generations of kids. He is the author of classic bestsellers like *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins* and *Hanukkah Bear*, which won the National Jewish Book Award.

### Summary

**Three inspiring stories illuminate the mitzvot of the High Holy Days: Charity, Repentance, and Prayer, in a strikingly illustrated new edition**

Award-winning folklorist Eric A. Kimmel tells stories to dramatize the meaning of each pillar of the holiday—a couple who share what they have, only to find that their samovar keeps refilling, a shepherd who loves God so much that he makes up his own prayers to Him, and a beggar and a Rabbi who together experience the power of repentance.

Sarah Green's striking fresh illustrations set the tone for these stories which help share the most moving days in the Jewish calendar.

### Contributor Bio

Eric A. Kimmel has published more than fifty children's books, many of which have won state awards and appeared on school and library recommended lists. He has won the National Jewish Book Award for numerous books, including *Hanukkah Bear* and *The Mysterious Guests: A Sukkot Story*, and the Sydney Taylor Lifetime Achievement Award. He lives in Portland, Oregon.

**Author Residence:** Portland, Oregon

Sarah Green is a RISD-educated illustrator and designer from San Francisco. She is the illustrator of numerous picture books, including *Fight of the Century* by Barb Rosenstock and *Born Hungry* by Alex Prud'homme.



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40 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Fiction / Hispanic & Latino

8.3 in H | 10.3 in W | 0.4 in T |  
0.7 lb Wt

## Fridays Are for Churros

Jenny Alvarado

### Key Selling Points

- **AUTHENTIC CUBAN REPRESENTATION:** As the proud daughter of Cuban immigrants Jenny feels lucky to have grown up in Miami Florida, a city filled with her culture as well as a multitude of others.
- **POPULAR SPANISH FOOD:** Latine readers will appreciate seeing churros represented from their culture, but readers across cultures will recognize the iconic fried dough treat.
- **THE AMERICANIZATION OF CHURROS:** Dunkin Donuts, the Largest coffee and donuts brand in the US with more than 13,000 restaurants worldwide, now has churros donuts (which I understand are very yummy).
- **RELATABLE MOVING STORY:** Countless kids struggle with the interruption of routine and traditions that moving brings, but this story presents a hopeful message about how traditions evolve and can still be enjoyed regardless of where a child lives.
- **URBAN COMMUNITY BUILDING:** A story of neighbors in an apartment building coming together to share in food, laughter, and community.

### Summary

**A girl and her dad move to a new town. And she's determined to keep their traditions, no matter how busy Daddy is! A fun story about family, food, and good neighbors!**

Every Friday, Emi and her Papi made churros for the entire familia. Now in their new apartment in the big city, Papi is always working, and there are no churros, and no familia, on Fridays. Until, Emi smells something sweet and delicious coming from her neighbor Señora Luisa's apartment.

Emi has an idea! Maybe she can make churros after all, with a little help. From Señora Luisa, she can borrow flour. Tomas in 312 has sugar. Marisol in 512 has a piping tip. Soon Emi's apartment is filled with the scent of fresh churros, new foods, and new friends!

A story of food and community, *Fridays Are for Churros* celebrates old traditions becoming new, and strangers becoming friends.

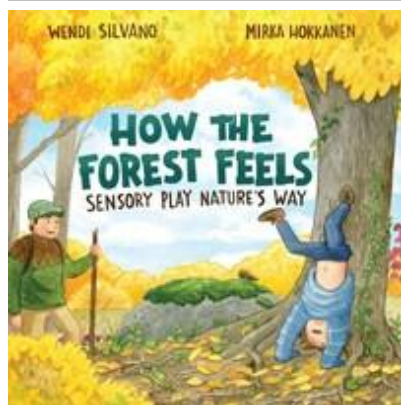
### Contributor Bio

Jenny Alvarado, is an author-illustrator living in sometimes sunny, mostly rainy, Florida. She was born and raised in Miami, Florida and is currently living in the Space Coast with her fiancé, son and little dog. As the proud daughter of Cuban immigrants she feels lucky to have grown up in a city filled with her culture as well as a multitude of others. She hopes to bring some of her experiences into her art and stories. Her debut picture book, *Agent Unicorn*, will be out in Fall 2024 with Page Street Kids. *Pencil & Eraser* her debut early graphic novel series will be released Fall 2024 with Putnam, Penguin Random House.

**Author Residence:** Florida

**Author Hometown:** Miami, Florida





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Juvenile Fiction / Concepts  
9.5 in H | 9.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## How the Forest Feels

### Sensory Play Nature's Way

Wendi Silvano, Mirka Hokkanen

### Key Selling Points

- **HOT TOPIC - SENSORY PLAY:** There is a massive market for sensory play toys, activity kits, and instructional materials for parents and caregivers, yet very few contemporary picture books that highlight the sense of touch. Plus, this is one of the first books to combine the trendy parenting topics of sensory play + exploration in nature.
- **THE GREAT OUTDOORS:** Families began spending more time outdoors during the COVID pandemic, and the trend remains visible in popular parenting groups such as 1000 Hours Outside, and the success of books like *The Hike* by Alison Farrell.
- **SOFT, NATURALISTIC ILLUSTRATIONS:** Mirka's art is delicate and chock full of enticing textures; the natural world comes through in vivid detail.
- **STRONG SALES TRACK FOR AUTHOR:** Wendi is the author of the successful *Turkey Trouble* series, which has sold more than 300,000 copies. Her books have a particular stronghold on Amazon.

### Summary

**Forest school meets sensory play in this cozy picture book about a grandparent and grandchild on an exploratory walk through the woods.**

*Smooth and wet is a stone in a creek. Slippery and cold is the splash on your cheek.*

A boy and his grandfather travel through a scenic forest on a sensory adventure written in soothing rhyme. Everywhere they look, there are fascinating things to see and feel. The boy is naturally curious... and in the woods, it's okay to touch!

Some things are sticky. Some things are firm. Some are oozy or crumbly or coarse. The boy delights in using his sense of touch to explore the natural world—made even sweeter by grandpa as his companion.

With soft, velvety illustrations, this sumptuous story is just right for kids who learn by doing, and makes an ideal read-aloud for preschools with sensory awareness on the curriculum. Back matter features an author's note about the five senses, as well as an interactive sensory treasure hunt for curious young readers (with adult supervision).

### Contributor Bio

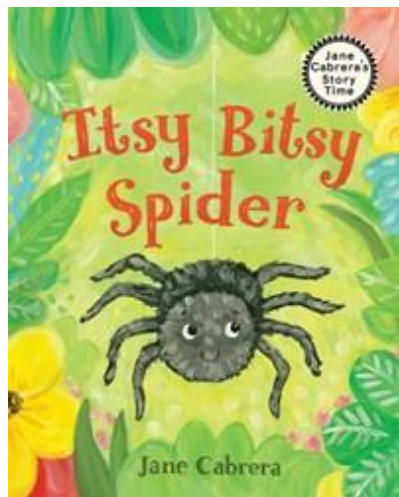
Wendi Silvano is a former educator and the award-winning author of the *Turkey Trouble* series, which has sold more than 300,000 copies. She is also the author of the *Love Is All Around...* series, as well as a variety of other picture books, early readers, and educational materials. Visit her online at [www.wendisilvano.com](http://www.wendisilvano.com).

**Author Residence:** Grand Junction, CO

Mirka Hokkanen is the author-illustrator of the *Mossy* and *Tweed* early graphic novel series, as well as *Kitty and Cat: Opposites Attract*, and the illustrator of several books for children. A native of Finland, she now lives in the Baltimore area with her family. You can find her online at [www.mirkah.com](http://www.mirkah.com) and on Instagram @mirkadraws.

**Illustrator Residence:** Olney, MD

**Illustrator Hometown:** Finland



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Series: Jane Cabrera's Story Time  
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## The Itsy Bitsy Spider

Jane Cabrera

### Key Selling Points

- **BELOVED STORYTIME AUTHOR:** Award winning author Jane Cabrera's interactive adventures are favorites in home and library storytimes. Rife with read-aloud potential, the acclaimed Jane Cabrera's Story Time collection is perfect for kids, families, educators, and booksellers alike.
- **FUN SPIN ON BELOVED NURSERY RHYME:** Everyone knows the Itsy Bitsy Spider—and soon, everyone will want to go to the Itsy Bitsy, Splishy Splashy Water Park! An old favorite meets new friends in this exciting and endearing update to a singalong classic.
- **SIGNATURE STYLE:** Kaleidoscopic colors and cute critters make Jane Cabrera's signature artwork adorable, approachable, and inviting to the youngest readers.
- **PUBLIC DOMAIN SONGS:** Using Jane Cabrera's books, booksellers, educators, and librarians can hold story hours and sing-alongs with confidence.

### Summary

**Wheweee! Come and play for a day at the Itsy Bitsy Splishy Splashy Bug Water park in this energetic reimagining of a favorite nursery rhyme in Jane Cabrera's Story Time Collection.**

*Itsy Bitsy Spider climbed up the water spout.  
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.*

*Itsy Bitsy Spider found it so much fun.  
He asked all his friends if they would come along!*

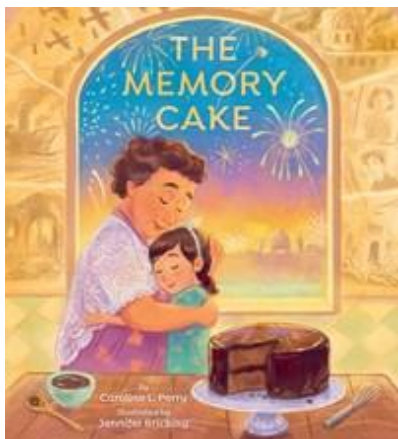
Itsy Bitsy Spider can't wait for the rain to come down—that's when he gets to ride his bug water slide! But not all of his bug friends know how to swim. They'll have to put their heads together to dream up a different way to have fun. Jane Cabrera accompanies this sing-along classic with upbeat illustrations and cheerful text that will have young readers and parents eagerly turning the pages.

Jane Cabrera's Story Time celebrates children's best-loved read-along nursery rhymes and songs. These interactive favorites are given a new twist by award-winning artist Jane Cabrera and feature her bold, bright, kid-friendly illustrations. Other titles in the series include The Wheels on the Bus, Old Mother Hubbard, Old MacDonald Had a Farm, and more!

### Contributor Bio

**Jane Cabrera** is a designer and fine artist, as well as the author and illustrator of almost 60 books for children. She specializes in fresh reimaginings of nursery rhymes and fairy tales; Publishers Weekly has said "her style exudes the joy of creation." She lives beside Dartmoor National Park in South Devon, England.

**Author Residence:** South Devon, England



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## The Memory Cake

Caroline L. Perry, Jen Bricking

### Key Selling Points

- **COPING WITH WARTIME UNCERTAINTY:** Many children still live during wartime or under siege, and this book illuminates its challenges and stresses along with hope for a peaceful future.
- **SPARK INTERGENERATIONAL CONVERSATIONS:** Inspired by the author's own childhood and visits to her Maltese grandparents, this book will encourage connections and discussions about the experiences across generations, hardships and victories alike.
- **DELICIOUS RECIPE, INFORMATIVE BACKMATTER:** A recipe for Nanna's Memory Cake is included in the backmatter. Additionally, an author's note discusses the real history and the author's Maltese grandmother who inspired the book.
- **GENTLE INTRODUCTION TO HARD TOPICS:** framed as memories told from a grandmother to her granddaughter, this story introduces hard topics like war and hunger in a gentle, age-appropriate way.
- **ENERGETIC, ENGAGED AUTHOR:** Caroline is an extraordinary self-promoter with media ties from her days as a journalist. She also works as a volunteer classroom writing instructor and loves to do school visits.

### Summary

**While baking a special cake with her granddaughter, a Maltese grandmother revisits her memories of survival, hope, and life under siege during World War II.**

Every year, a young girl visits her Nanna on the tiny Mediterranean isle of Malta, and together they bake a cake. As they mix, stir and ice their chocolate confection, Nanna explains why the cake is so special: when she was a girl, she made it to celebrate the end of a WWII bombing campaign against her small country.

As they talk, Nanna looks back on the layers of her life: the underground shelters, the bombs, the hunger—and the hope that helped her through her hardest times. Her granddaughter learns about Malta's enduring traditions, her family history—and her grandmother's recipe for happiness.

Sharing the little-known history of the 'Siege of Malta,' this gentle picture book celebrates all who dream of peaceful futures during times of war and uncertainty, and encourages readers to share family stories and memories—even the difficult ones.

A note in the back shares the author's inspiration from her visits to her own Maltese Nanna and the real history of the 'Siege of Malta,' along with a recipe for Nanna's memory cake.

### Contributor Bio

Caroline L. Perry is the author of *The Corgi and the Queen* and several other books for young readers. Born in England, she has lived in four countries and visited more than sixty others, always seeking out 'hidden histories' and quirky, lesser-known museums wherever she goes. Like her late Maltese Nanna, Caroline is an enthusiastic baker with a perpetually sweet tooth (and a special fondness for chocolate cake). Caroline lives in Southern California with her husband and their three endlessly-curious kids.

**Author Residence:** Los Angeles, CA

Jennifer Bricking is an artist currently living in Seattle, WA. She works as a concept artist for video games and as an illustrator for young adult and middle grade books, picture books, magazines and advertisements. She has worked for Disney Interactive



and Microsoft. Her freelance clients include Harper Collins, Scholastic, Simon & Schuster, Macmillan, Cottage Door Press, Penguin Random House, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Sesame Street, The Jane Goodall Institute and more. When she's not drawing, she likes to travel, ride her bike, skateboard and explore the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

**Illustrator Residence:**Seattle, WA



Holiday House  
9780823457823  
Pub Date: 5/13/2025  
On Sale Date: 5/13/2025  
\$18.99  
Hardcover

32 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes  
Series: Bear and Mole  
11.3 in H | 9.3 in W | 0.3 in T |  
0.9 lb Wt

## Summer Is Here

### A Bear and Mole Story

Will Hillenbrand

### Key Selling Points

- **A COMPELLING COMPANION:** Will Hillenbrand's companion book *Spring is Here* sold over 50k copies, demonstrating that readers are ready for more of Bear & Mole's seasonal adventures. Critics love the series as much as readers; *First Star* was a Bank Street Children's Best Book of the Year, and *Kite Day* was a Pennsylvania One Book Selection that SLJ called "a winner for storytimes" in a starred review.
- **AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR-ILLUSTRATOR:** Will Hillenbrand has received numerous accolades, including an ALA Notable Book Award, multiple IRA Children's Choice Awards, and a Please Touch Museum Book Award. Will's tactile and playful illustrations jump off of the page, reinforcing the feeling of motion in this active tale of summer baseball fun.
- **READ-ALOUD POTENTIAL:** This text comes to life with onomatopoeia, repetition, and active words that make this story the perfect fit for the classroom or at home.
- **THE NATIONAL PASTIME:** Approximately 5.3 million American children participate in baseball every year, demonstrating that the sport—and this book!—is a sure hit with young baseball players everywhere.
- **LETS KIDS WITH GLASSES SEE THEMSELVES:** Over 25% of children wear glasses, and that number has increased over the past ten years. With the help of his new glasses, Mole can accomplish anything, and young readers adjusting to their new glasses can relate to his experiences.
- **HEARTFELT MOMENTS:** Strike one! Strike two! Mole keeps swinging and missing the ball. With Bear's support, however, Mole grits his teeth and tries again. *Summer is Here* emphasizes the importance of believing in yourself and supporting your friends during challenging moments.
- **SUMMERTIME HIT:** This seasonal story is an instant hit for kids looking forward to warmer weather and breezy baseball matches.

### Summary

**Swish. Swish. Swish... Thwack! Bear and Mole are stepping up to the plate for summer baseball season—but what happens when Mole struggles to hit the ball?**

Finally, summer is here! Baseball-loving Mole suits up and hustles to the baseball diamond for a game with his best friend Bear. Mole is ready to play, and he's swinging for the fences! Swish. Swish. Swish. It's a swing and... a miss?

Mole measures, wishes, grits his teeth, and swings—still, it's like he can't even see the plate! But with the gentle support of his friend Bear, lots of patience, and a new pair of glasses, Mole is ready to play all summer long.

Will Hillenbrand's Bear and Mole series is the perfect choice for storytime sharing or reading aloud. Strong verbs, repetitive phrases, and fun-to-read sounds keep young listeners and readers engaged with the story, while the gentle illustrations add detail and quiet humor. This tender yet joyful homage to the endless excitement of summer and meaningful time with friends from an award winning author-illustrator is sure to be a home run with readers.

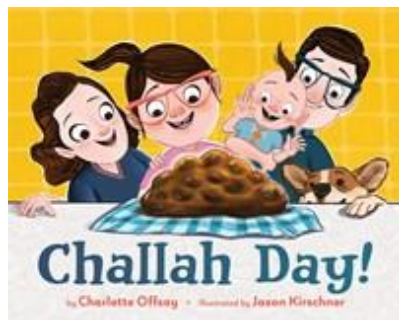
Don't miss the other Bear and Mole titles, including *Spring is Here*, *Off We Go!*, *All for a Dime*, *Kite Day*, and *First Star*!

### 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





Holiday House  
9780823460724  
Pub Date: 1/6/2026  
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\$8.99  
Trade Paperback  
  
40 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Fiction / Religious  
8 in H | 10 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Challah Day!

Charlotte Offsay, Jason Kirschner

### Key Selling Points

- **GREAT FOR JEWISH INTEREST DISPLAYS:** Especially for Rosh Hashanah (Sept. 15-17, 2023) and Sukkot (Sept. 29-Oct. 6, 2023).
- **FAMILY TIES:** Story and artwork are inspired by the author's and the illustrator's fond memories of laughing and baking Challah with their children
- **GREAT YEAR ROUND:** Challah is enjoyed every Friday for Shabbat (the Jewish Sabbath) and at many Jewish holidays throughout the year.
- **BAKING POPULARITY:** Home cooking and baking continue to rise in popularity. Simple recipes like Challah are perfect for parents looking to get their children excited about being in the kitchen
- **READ ALOUD:** The simple, rhyming text is perfect for parents to share this timeless tradition with their littlest readers, even preschool children
- **CHALLAH RECPE INCLUDED:** Food is a great gateway to different cultures in and out of the classroom. Information about the cultural importance of Challah and recipe can be found in the back of the book.

### Summary

**"An oasis of Jewish joy." --School Library Journal**

**Baked with love! A family mixes, kneads, braids, and bakes bread for dinner with Grandma and Grandpa in this joyful, rhyming story.**

Inspired by memories author Charlotte Offsay and illustrator Jason Kirschner have of baking Challah with their children, *Challah Day* celebrates the sweetness of sharing homemade food as a family.

*Yeast and sugar - water's warm,  
mix and watch those bubbles form!  
Crack the eggs - one... two... three... four  
Extra if some hit the floor.*

This read aloud can be a joyful introduction to a new culture or a cozy way to celebrate a familiar one. Perfect for any occasion as a holiday gift or the start of a new weekly tradition.

In the back of the book, read about the cultural importance of Challah and Jewish traditions. A Challah recipe is included.

"It's time to make the challah, and this loving Jewish family is ready for a day of fun."—**Kirkus Reviews**

### Contributor Bio

Charlotte Offsay was born in England, grew up in Boston, and currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband and two small children. Through her work, Charlotte hopes to make children laugh, to inspire curiosity, and to create a magical world her readers can lose themselves in time and time again. She is the author of *The Big Beach Cleanup*, *How to Return a Monster*, and *A Grandma's Magic*. She enjoys baking Challah with her two children every Friday. Learn more about Charlotte at [charlotteoffsay.com](http://charlotteoffsay.com) and follow her on Twitter at @COffsay and on Instagram at @picturebookrecommendations.

**Author Residence:** Los Angeles

**Author Hometown:** England

Jason is the author and illustrator of *Mr. Particular: The World's Choosiest Champion*. When not writing and illustrating, Jason is an Emmy-nominated set designer for television. His credits include *The Meredith Vieira Show*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and *The Late Show with David Letterman*. He has baked plenty of challahs with his wife and teen twins, although they always get hung up at the braiding stage because it isn't as easy as it looks. You can find his work at [jasonkirschner.com](http://jasonkirschner.com) or on Instagram at [@jkirsch118](https://www.instagram.com/jkirsch118).



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On Sale Date: 5/27/2025  
\$19.99  
Hardcover

40 Pages  
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature  
Series: Books for a Better Earth  
11.3 in H | 8.8 in W | 0.3 in T |  
0.9 lb Wt

## The Air We Share

### A Pollution Problem and Finding Ways to Fix It

Dee Romito, Mariona Cabassa

#### Key Selling Points

- **STEM & HISTORY:** A perfect blend of science and history.
- **FOR OUTDOOR LOVERS:** For kids and parents that love a day in the fresh air, this book informs kids about the air around them and encourages them to be eco-conscious citizens.
- **GORGEOUS EARTH DAY DISPLAYS:** Illustrator Mariona Cabassa's vibrant use of color and unique, accessible interpretation of air particles will make for a standout on any Earth Day display for librarians or bookstores.
- **COMPANION BOOK:** Dee Romito's *The Last Plastic Straw*, was a JLG selection and earned a starred review from *The Horn Book*.
- **ENVIRONMENTAL COLLECTION:** The Books for a Better Earth™ collection is designed to inspire young people to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for the planet they live on.

#### Summary

**What goes up there ends up here! That's because air travels around the earth and carries lots of stuff in it!**

Air carries mostly good stuff like seeds, scents, and sounds. And it carries bad stuff like ash, dust and smog.

Read about . . . the eruption of the volcano Krakatoa that sent ash into the air and around the earth, The Black Sunday Dust Storm that traveled from Oklahoma to the East Coast, and The Great Smog of London that killed thousands of people. Then learn about what people can do to protect the air we share.

You will also like *The Last Plastic Straw: A Plastic Problem and Finding Ways to Fix It* by Dee Romito and illustrated by Ziyue Chen.

The Books for a Better Earth™ collection is designed to inspire young people to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for the planet they live on. Focusing on solutions to climate change challenges and human environmental impacts, the collection looks at how scientists, activists, and young leaders are working to safeguard Earth's future.

**Series Overview:** The Books for a Better Earth™ collection is designed to inspire young people to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for the planet they live on. Focusing on solutions to climate change challenges and human environmental impacts, the collection looks at how scientists, activists, and young leaders are working to safeguard Earth's future.

#### Contributor Bio

Dee Romito is an author of books for young readers from picture books to middle grade, including *The Last Plastic Straw*, which received a starred review from *The Horn Book*. Dee lives in her sometimes-oat-scented hometown of Buffalo, New York where you'll likely find her taking a walk in the fresh air or researching ways to protect our planet. She's certain each one of us can make a difference in the world and writes books to prove it. You can visit her website at [deeromito.com](http://deeromito.com).

**Author Residence:** Buffalo, NY

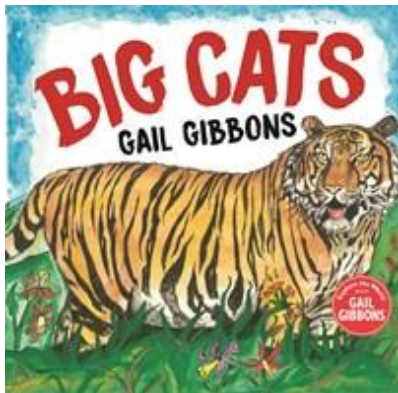
**Author Hometown:** Buffalo, NY

Mariona was born in beautiful Barcelona where she currently lives with her loving

husband and son. She combines her work as an illustrator while teaching art and graphic design. Mariona has more than 40 illustrated books in Spain and other countries, including *A Gift for Amma: Market Day In India* by Meera Sriram and *Barefoot Books Water* by Christy Mihaly. When not illustrating, she is either dancing 5 Rhythms or learning to play the cello.

**Illustrator Residence:**Barcelona, Spain





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\$18.99  
Hardcover

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

## Big Cats!

Gail Gibbons

### Key Selling Points

- **CONSERVATION FOR KIDS:** This environmentally-conscious exploration does more than teach kids about big cats—it also shows what even young children can do to protect the animals they love.
- **TRUSTED NAME IN NONFICTION:** With 120+ educational books published over the last thirty years, Gail Gibbons is one of the most established and accomplished authors of STEM titles for kids.
- **TIMELESS TOPIC:** From BBC Earth's *Big Cats* to Netflix's *Tiger King*, people of all ages have always been collectively fascinated by these gorgeous, graceful creatures.
- **VETTED BY AN EXPERT**

### Summary

**The bigger the cats, the bigger the fun! Learn about leopards, lions, and more in this vibrantly-illustrated guide—and what you can do to protect their species.**

Padded paws! Extended claws! Readers are in for a *roaring* good time as they explore the world of cool cats and conservation.

Animal-lovers will devour this sensory romp, learning how big cats see, smell, hear, touch, and taste. Complete with detailed diagrams and resources for helping to protect big cats and their habitats, this brightly-colored nonfiction picture book is as ferociously fun as it is environmentally-conscious.

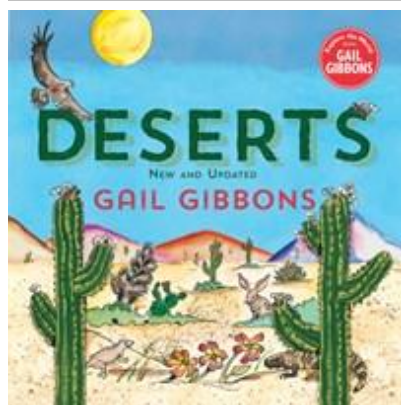
With hundreds of thousands of books sold, nonfiction master Gail Gibbons' signature simple text and striking illustrations celebrate the majestic power of big cats and continue her tradition of bringing science to curious children.

### 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 is the author of more than 100 books for young readers on a wide range of subjects. As an artist and a previous graphic designer for SNL, she brings educational information to life with bright, clear illustrations. Her many honors include the Washington Post/Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award and the NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award.

**Author Residence:** Corinth, VT

**Author Hometown:** Oak Park, IL



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\$18.99  
Hardcover

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

## Deserts (New & Updated)

Gail Gibbons

### Key Selling Points

- **EXTREME ECOSYSTEM:** Deserts are a fascinating biome with extreme, unique conditions that make them a perfect case study for lessons on habitats and environments.
- **VETTED BY AN EXPERT:**
- **SUCCULENT POPULARITY:** Succulents are one of the most popular and easy plants to take care of. Kids with succulents at home will love learning about even more varieties in their natural habitats.
- **SOMETHING FOR EVERY WILDLIFE-LOVER:** Including insects, snakes, lizards, birds, and mammals, there's a creature for every kind of kid to learn about.
- **STEM MADE ACCESSIBLE:** Gail Gibbon's signature clear and labeled illustrations and simple, accessible text makes science accessible to the youngest readers.
- **TRUSTED NAME IN NONFICTION:** According to the *Washington Post*, Gail Gibbons "has taught more preschoolers and early readers about the world than any other children's writer-illustrator."

### Summary

**In this new and updated edition, learn everything you need to know about one of the toughest environments on Earth, from #1 science writer for kids Gail Gibbons.**

Deserts cover about one-fifth of the land on Earth and receive very little rain. However, these hot, sandy, and rocky landscapes are filled with the most unique and adaptable plants and animals. Discover everything about this mysterious and beautiful biome in this updated introduction to deserts.

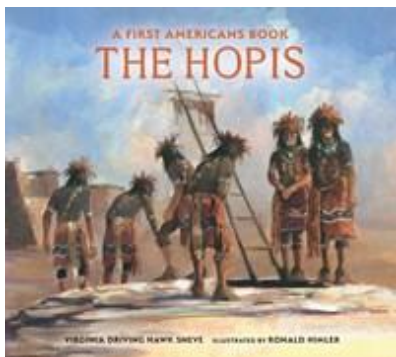
Learn about the different types of terrain found in deserts from dunes to mesas. With accessible diagrams, learn how succulents and other plants survive such a dry, hot climate. Meet the birds, critters, and creepy crawlies that call the desert home. Clearly labeled watercolor illustrations introduce young readers to dozens of desert dwellers from the western diamondback rattlesnake to the road runner to the camel.

Gail Gibbons "has taught more preschoolers and early readers about the world than any other children's writer-illustrator." Ms. Gibbons is the author of more than 120 acclaimed books for young readers, including the bestselling titles *From Seed to Plant* and *Monarch Butterflies*. Her many honors include the Washington Post/Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award and the NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award.

### 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, VT



Holiday House

9780823459933

Pub Date: 7/22/2025

On Sale Date: 7/22/2025

\$18.99

Hardcover

32 Pages

Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5

Juvenile Nonfiction / Native American

9.5 in H | 10.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## The Hopis

Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, Ronald Himler

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCLAIMED NATIVE AUTHOR:** Sneve grew up on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation and has made information about Native Americans accessible to children for over 40 years, for which she has received several awards, including the National Humanities Medal and Author-Illustrator Human and Civil Rights Award.
- **NEW & UPDATED:** This new edition of Sneve's nonfiction premier on the Hopi tribe features updated language and information, as well as current pictures.
- **REVIEWED BY AN EXPERT:** The content was vetted by a member of the Hopi tribe.
- **NATIVE AMERICAN NONFICTION:** With over 2.6 million Native Americans in the US today from countless diverse and distinctive cultures, there is a need for accessible nonfiction that introduces young readers to the unique characteristics and beliefs of each group.
- **THE HOPI TRIBE:** Located in Arizona, the Hopi reservation is on the southern three prongs of Black Mesa.

### Summary

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

Did you know that the Hopi people have always lived on three mesas, big flat-topped hills, in Arizona? This accessible nonfiction picture book introduces the Hopis' creation story, history, beliefs, daily ways of life, and more. Learn about the Hopi secret societies, underground kivas, kachina masks, the snake dance, and more.

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

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

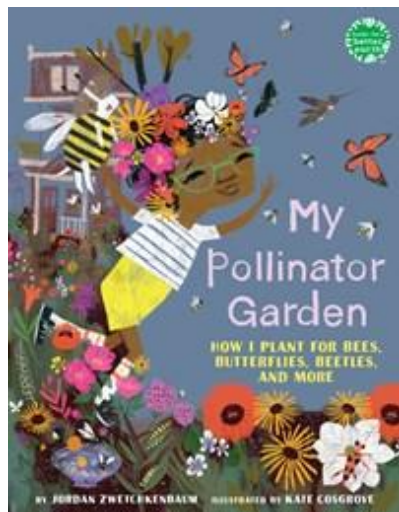
**Author Hometown:** Rosebud Sioux Reservation

Born in Cleveland Ohio, 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



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Hardcover

40 Pages  
Ages 3 to 6, Grades K And Under  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Gardening  
Series: Books for a Better Earth  
11.3 in H | 8.8 in W | 0.4 in T | 1 lb Wt

## My Pollinator Garden

**How I Plant for Bees, Butterflies, Beetles, and More**

Jordan Zwetchkenbaum, Kate Cosgrove

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCESSIBLE & EASY-TO-READ:** Scientific ideas are explained in everyday language that's easy to understand and are illustrated with beautiful pictures that are fun to look at.
- **EDUCATIONAL TOOL:** Provides content knowledge/background knowledge about the natural world, which research has found is essential for reading success.
- **STUNNING ARTWORK:** Dramatic and colorful compositions that enchant as well as educate.
- **DEBUT AUTHOR & BESTSELLING ILLUSTRATOR:** Kate Cosgrove is the illustrator of the NY Times Bestseller *A Day with No Words*.
- **VETTED BY AN EXPERT:** Sam Droege is a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Geological Society.
- **PLANTS & ANIMALS ARE LABELED** with both common names and latin names.
- **BACK MATTER** has information about how readers can grow their own pollinator gardens, a glossary, a bibliography, and an index.

### Summary

**Do you want to help the earth? You can start in your own backyard! Learn about important bees, birds, butterflies, and bats—and the special plants that keep them alive. With stunning illustrations by a NY Times bestselling illustrator.**

Bees need pollen and nectar from flowers. But not all flowers feed all bees. Some bees need long, narrow flowers. Some bees need short flowers. Some tiny bees can't fly far and need flowers that are nearby. Some bees can take pollen from only one particular kind of flower. Those bees are in trouble if that flower isn't available to them. Flies, wasps, beetles, bats, birds, and butterflies need flowers too.

This book is about amazing animals and plants that are native to North America, how they need each other to survive, and how you can help them.

Back matter has information about how you can grow your own pollinator garden, as well as a glossary, bibliography, and index.

An excellent choice for parents and educators looking for books that provide content knowledge (background knowledge) about the natural world to support reading comprehension.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

JORDAN ZWETCHKENBAUM (ZWECH-ken-boum) graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Washington University in St. Louis School of Engineering and is currently attending a certificate program in sustainable gardening with native plants at Go Native U at Westchester Community College. With a lifelong interest in wildlife conservation and many friends in the juvenile publishing community, Jordan was the inspiration for the pumpkin plant in Jean Marzollo's *I'm a Seed*. She lives with her partner in Corning, NY, where she welcomes native bees, butterflies, and birds to her own pollinator garden.

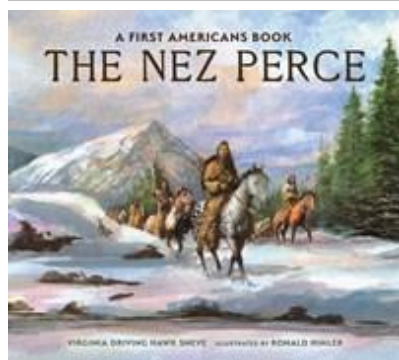
**Author Residence:** Corning, NY



**Author Hometown:** Greenburgh, NY

KATE COSGROVE (CAHZ-grohv) is the illustrator of the *New York Times* bestselling picture book *A Day with No Words* by Tiffany Hammond. Kate has received many awards and honors for her artwork, including a Dolly Gray Literature Award, a Highlights Foundation Scholarship, and selection for the 41st and 43rd Original Art Annual Exhibitions in New York City. Kate illustrated *And the Bullfrogs Sing*, a Bank Street Best Book of the Year and a Maryland Blue Crab Young Reader Award Honors book, *The Dirt Book: Poems about Animals that Live Beneath Our Feet*, which was a New York Public Library Best Book of the Year and was selected for the Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List, and *A Tree Is a Community*, all by David. L. Harrison. With pencil-smudge fingers, Kate is usually hiding, along with a smelly dog named Stanley, in her probably-haunted art studio.

**Illustrator Residence:** Lansing, Michigan



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\$18.99  
Hardcover

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

## The Nez Perce

Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, Ronald Himler

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCLAIMED NATIVE AUTHOR:** Sneve grew up on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation and has made information about Native Americans accessible to children for over 40 years, for which she has received several awards, including the National Humanities Medal and Author-Illustrator Human and Civil Rights Award.
- **NEW & UPDATED:** This new edition of Sneve's nonfiction premier on the Nez Perce people features updated language and information, as well as current pictures and a foreword written by a tribe member.
- **REVIEWED BY AN EXPERT:** The content was vetted by a member of the Nez Perce tribe.
- **NATIVE AMERICAN NONFICTION:** With over 2.6 million Native Americans in the US today from countless diverse and distinctive cultures, there is a need for accessible nonfiction that introduces young readers to the unique characteristics and beliefs of each group.
- **THE NEZ PERCE NATION:** Historically located in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. Today, the Nez Perce primarily reside in the Lapwai Reservation in Idaho.

### Summary

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

Did you know that the Nez Perce believed that humans had to seek a spirit helper to find their purpose in life through a vision? Learn about the Nez Perce's creation story, history, belief, daily ways of living, introduction to the horse, and more in this accessible introduction.

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

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.

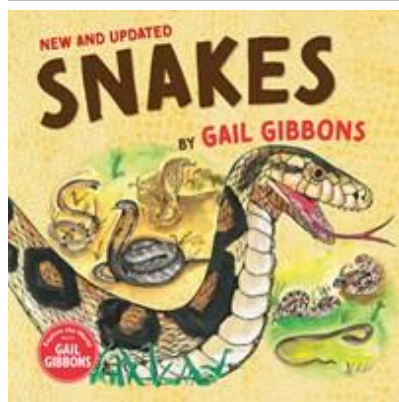
**Author Residence:** Rapid City, South Dakota

**Author Hometown:** Rosebud Sioux Reservation

Born in Cleveland Ohio, 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:**Cleveland, OH

**Illustrator Hometown:**Tucson, AZ



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\$18.99  
Hardcover

32 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals

10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Snakes (New & Updated)

Gail Gibbons

### Key Selling Points

- **VETTED BY AN EXPERT**
- **HIGH INTEREST ANIMAL:** Whether kids are afraid of them, love trapping them in shoeboxes, or have only seen dangerous ones in movies, snakes are an iconic animal that all kids are fascinated by.
- **BIOLOGY MADE EASY:** With clear diagrams and easy-to-read text, young readers can learn about simple biology concepts
- **TRUSTED NAME IN NONFICTION:** With over 120 educational books published and hundreds of thousands of copies sold of classics like *Tool Book* and *Monarch Butterfly*, Gail Gibbons is one of the most accomplished and trusted authors of children's nonfiction.

### Summary

**Slither into the world of snakes in this new and updated edition of a classic from the #1 science writer for kids Gail Gibbons.**

Did you know that out of the 3,000 species of snakes, most snakes are harmless to humans? We see evil and dangerous snakes in movies and TV all the time, but learn the truth about these fascinating creatures. This new and updated edition, vetted by an expert, includes the latest scientific information about snakes.

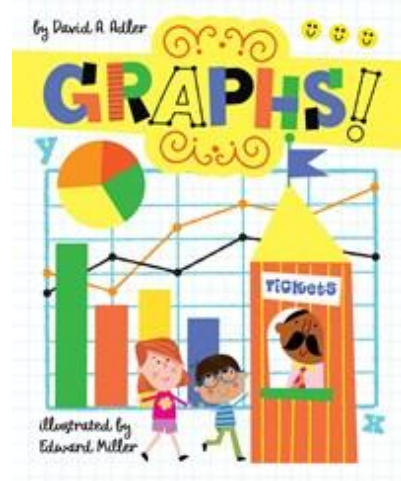
Learn about snakes' physical characteristics, where they live, and how they give birth. Most snakes lay eggs, but some give birth to live babies! Read about how they move with no arms or legs and how they eat. Snakes hunt using camouflage, constriction, venom, and more. They swallow their prey whole, sometimes while the prey is still alive. Knowing about snakes, from the most ordinary garden variety to the most exotic constrictors and venomous species, is to admire and respect these extraordinary reptiles.

Gail Gibbons "has taught more preschoolers and early readers about the world than any other children's writer-illustrator." Ms. Gibbons is the author of more than 120 acclaimed books for young readers, including the bestselling titles *From Seed to Plant* and *Monarch Butterflies*. Her many honors include the Washington Post/Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award and the NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award.

### 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, VT



Holiday House  
9780823460694  
Pub Date: 1/6/2026  
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026  
\$8.99  
Trade Paperback

32 Pages  
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Mathematics  
10 in H | 8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Graphs!

David A. Adler, Edward Miller

### Key Selling Points

- **TRUSTED NAME:** Having written over two hundred books for children, David A. Adler is one of the most prolific authors writing for children today and has experience writing acclaimed nonfiction books across a wide range of subject matter.
- **EXPERIENCE IN THE CLASSROOM:** A former math teacher, Adler is an expert on how kids learn—and how to make learning fun!
- **HIGH CONTRAST ART:** Adler's vibrant and engaging classroom resource uses bright, bold illustrations to give a graph-ic twist to this accessible and inviting nonfiction text.
- **FUN SETTING:** Taking place at a carnival full of roller coasters and more, readers are in for a wild ride! This book feels more like a day at the fair than a day in the classroom, all while providing detailed educational resources.
- **STEM TOPICS:** Collecting and Graphic data provides young readers with crucial data collection building blocks that are widely applicable across STEM subjects and will encourage critical thinking skills.

### Summary

**Math booster author David A. Adler and artist Ed Miller make pie charts easy-as-pie charts with this fun and vibrantly illustrated guide to data collection.**

For students, STEM topics don't always feel like a walk in the park. But what if they were more like a day at the fair? Follow Janet and Ben from the Ferris Wheel to the carousel as they use graphs and data collection to make decisions about their day. This is the sixteenth book in this duo's math picture book series.

Combining elements of a graphic story with engaging and accessible nonfiction text, David A. Adler combines his well-established STEM know-how with Edward Miller's vibrant, high contrast art to take young readers on a wild ride through the world of bar graphs, pictographs, pie charts, and more!

### Contributor Bio

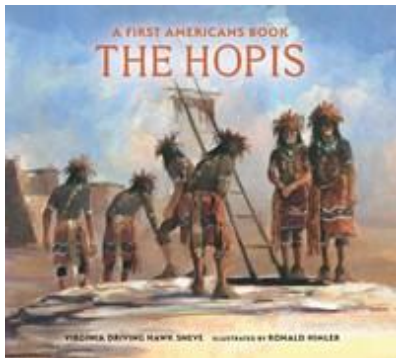
David A. Adler is a former math teacher and author of more than two hundred books for children. He has collaborated on several science picture books with Anna Raff, including *Light Waves* and *Magnets Push, Magnets Pull*, both named finalists for the AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence in Science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

Edward Miller is a former children's book art director who loves to make concepts clear to kids and has demonstrated that in his previous nonfiction books. School Library Journal praised his *Alphabeep: A Zippering, Zooming ABC* by Debora Pearson as "stunningly illustrated." He illustrates a variety of products for kids in addition to books. He lives in Beacon, New York. Follow him on Instagram @edelementary.

**Illustrator Residence:** Beacon, New York





Holiday House

9780823460946

Pub Date: 7/22/2025

On Sale Date: 7/22/2025

\$8.99

Trade Paperback

32 Pages

Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5

Juvenile Nonfiction / Native American

9.5 in H | 10.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## The Hopis

Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, Ronald Himler

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCLAIMED NATIVE AUTHOR:** Sneve grew up on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation and has made information about Native Americans accessible to children for over 40 years, for which she has received several awards, including the National Humanities Medal and Author-Illustrator Human and Civil Rights Award.
- **NEW & UPDATED:** This new edition of Sneve's nonfiction premier on the Hopi tribe features updated language and information, as well as current pictures.
- **REVIEWED BY AN EXPERT:** The content was vetted by a member of the Hopi tribe.
- **NATIVE AMERICAN NONFICTION:** With over 2.6 million Native Americans in the US today from countless diverse and distinctive cultures, there is a need for accessible nonfiction that introduces young readers to the unique characteristics and beliefs of each group.
- **THE HOPI TRIBE:** Located in Arizona, the Hopi reservation is on the southern three prongs of Black Mesa.

### Summary

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

Did you know that the Hopi people have always lived on three mesas, big flat-topped hills, in Arizona? This accessible nonfiction picture book introduces the Hopis' creation story, history, beliefs, daily ways of life, and more. Learn about the Hopi secret societies, underground kivas, kachina masks, the snake dance, and more.

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

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

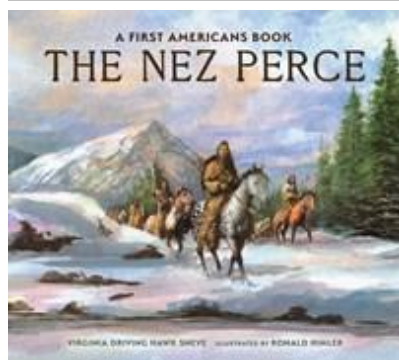
**Author Hometown:** Rosebud Sioux Reservation

Born in Cleveland Ohio, 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



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Juvenile Nonfiction / Native American  
9.5 in H | 10.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## The Nez Perce

Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, Ronald Himler

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCLAIMED NATIVE AUTHOR:** Sneve grew up on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation and has made information about Native Americans accessible to children for over 40 years, for which she has received several awards, including the National Humanities Medal and Author-Illustrator Human and Civil Rights Award.
- **NEW & UPDATED:** This new edition of Sneve's nonfiction premier on the Nez Perce people features updated language and information, as well as current pictures and a foreword written by a tribe member.
- **REVIEWED BY AN EXPERT:** The content was vetted by a member of the Nez Perce tribe.
- **NATIVE AMERICAN NONFICTION:** With over 2.6 million Native Americans in the US today from countless diverse and distinctive cultures, there is a need for accessible nonfiction that introduces young readers to the unique characteristics and beliefs of each group.
- **THE NEZ PERCE NATION:** Historically located in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. Today, the Nez Perce primarily reside in the Lapwai Reservation in Idaho.

### Summary

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

Did you know that the Nez Perce believed that humans had to seek a spirit helper to find their purpose in life through a vision? Learn about the Nez Perce's creation story, history, belief, daily ways of living, introduction to the horse, and more in this accessible introduction.

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

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.

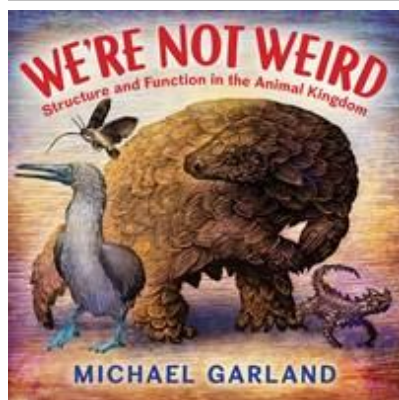
**Author Residence:** Rapid City, South Dakota

**Author Hometown:** Rosebud Sioux Reservation

Born in Cleveland Ohio, 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:**Cleveland, OH

**Illustrator Hometown:**Tucson, AZ



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Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature  
10 in H | 10 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## We're Not Weird

### Structure and Function in the Animal Kingdom

Michael Garland

#### Key Selling Points

- **NEXT GEN SCIENCE STANDARDS:** Aligns with curriculum on adaptation, as well as structure and function, for kindergarten through 3rd grade.
- **VETTED BY AN EXPERT:** Reviewed by Anne Dalziel, Ph.D, professor and researcher in the Department of Biology of Saint Mary's University.
- **BEAUTIFUL, ACCURATE ARTWORK:** While other "weird" animal books are photographic, Michael Garland's digitally colored woodcut illustrations are detailed, vibrant, and sure to capture kids' curiosity.
- **DEEPER THAN TRIVIA:** The extraordinary looking animals will pique kids' interest, while the simple, straightforward text delves into the scientific "how" and "why" of animal physiology.
- **AWARD-WINNING NONFICTION:** A companion to *Birds Make Nests* by Michael Garland, winner of the Correll Book Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Informational Text and named a NSTA's Outstanding Science Trade Book.
- **SUBTLE INCLUSIVE MESSAGE:** By celebrating biodiversity in animals, instead of calling these unique animals "weird," *We're Not Weird* encourages kids to see the value in being different.

#### Summary

**Meet nature's most extraordinary looking creatures. But they aren't weird!**

Birds with blue feet, fish that walk, unicorns in the sea, and more! Learn how these animals' quirks help them survive. Perfect for budding naturalists who are always ready to share a cool (or gross) animal fact.

*Very hard scales protect me, and my long tongue is perfect for eating ants. When I feel threatened, I roll myself into a ball. I am a Pangolin.*

See these animals' amazing body parts in vibrant and detailed woodcut illustrations, from the thorny dragon's spiky skin to the star-nosed mole's twenty-two feelers. Read how these creatures' unique traits help them thrive and survive in their environments. Learn where they live, what they eat, how they protect themselves, and more.

With easy-to-read text vetted by an expert, this book aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards on adaptation, structure, and function for kindergarten through 3rd grade. With supplementary information on each animal's habitat and diet.

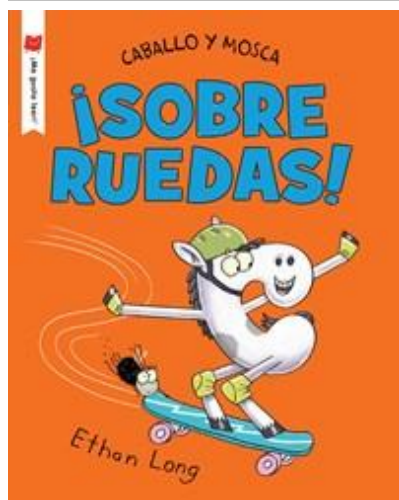
#### Contributor Bio

Michael Garland has written and illustrated many books for children, including *Fish Had a Wish* (*Kirkus Reviews* Top 25 Children's Books), *Tugboat* (Best Children's Books for Family Literacy), *Pizza Mouse* (Junior Library Guild Selection), and *Birds Make Nests* (Correll Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Informational Text and NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book). His art for James Patterson's Santa Kid inspired Saks Fifth Avenue's Christmas Holiday windows.

**Author Residence:** Patterson, NY

**Author Hometown:** Staten Island





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32 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Fiction / Readers  
Series: iMe gusta leer!  
10 in H | 7.8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Caballo y Mosca sobre ruedas

Ethan Long

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **TRANSLATED BY A NATIVE SPEAKER:** Every book in the iMe gusta leer! line is translated by a native Spanish speaker.
- **SKATEBOARDING IS COOL:** Latine athletes have always had a strong presence in the skateboarding scene, and young Spanish speakers have many skateboarding icons of Latine heritage to look up to, including Puerto Rican X-Games champion Nyja Huston and Mexican American Mark Gonzales, the first person to skate a handrail.
- **PLAYING IT SAFE:** Kids will love seeing their favorite activity come to life through Ethan Long's expressive art style—and adults will love the always helpful, never chiding reminders to wear helmets and other safety equipment.
- **AUTHOR ACCOLADES:** Ethan Long's many accolades include a Geisel Medal and daytime Emmy nomination, cementing his reputation as a trusted name in children's entertainment.
- **OLD FRIENDS, NEW TRICKS:** Dynamic duo Caballo & Mosca are back in this, the third title in the Horse & Buggy series to be translated into Spanish! New and returning readers alike will enjoy horsing around with these fun, familiar characters.

### Summary

**Best friends Caballo & Mosca's skateboarding shenanigans will have early readers rolling with laughter in this story from Geisel medalist Ethan Long, now available in Spanish!**

Caballo is ready to try some BIG skateboard tricks . . . and his best friend Mosca has some tips for how Caballo can avoid getting hurt. From tightening helmet straps to bandaging bruised butts, there's no such thing as too much fun with this dynamic duo—especially because they're playing it safe.

Ethan Long's expressive, slapstick-style art brings the laugh-out-loud story to life in this Spanish-language early reader that really sticks the landing.

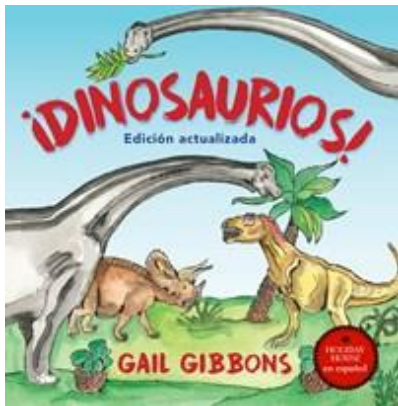
Don't miss this hilarious duo's other adventures in Spanish— *iBaila, baila, baila!* (*Dance, Dance, Dance!*) and *iPintalo!* (*Horse & Buggy Paint It Out!*).

iMe gusta leer!® provides emerging Spanish language readers with translations of popular I Like to Read® books. The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarten through first grade. 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

**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 a daytime Emmy nomination for *Tasty Time with Ze Frank*.

**Author Residence:** Denver, CO



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\$8.99  
Trade Paperback

32 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals  
10 in H | 10 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## ¡Dinosaurios!

Gail Gibbons

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **NEWLY TRANSLATED:** The translation was produced by a Spanish language expert for a new generation of readers.
- **FOR THE YOUNGEST DINO-OBSESSED KIDS:** Kids who love dinosaurs love dinosaurs. This primer on dinosaurs is perfect for the youngest readers who have just discovered their favorite dinosaur and will eat up dinosaur facts.
- **SPANISH AND BILINGUAL CLASSROOM TOOL:** This accessible nonfiction book has potential for countless lessons and activities in Spanish and bilingual classrooms.
- **TRUSTED NAME IN NONFICTION:** With over 120 educational books published and hundreds of thousands of copies sold of classics like *Tool Book* and *Monarch Butterfly*, Gail Gibbons is one of the most accomplished and trusted authors of children's nonfiction.

### Summary

**This newly updated primer on everything dinosaurs, from #1 science writer for kids Gail Gibbons, is now available in Spanish!**

A giant meteor blasts an enormous crater into Earth's surface, causing the end of what scientists call the Age of Dinosaurs. Gail Gibbons presents the most recent and up-to-date theories about the history of dinosaurs and dinosaur discoveries. She discusses the Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous periods and the dinosaurs that lived during each time.

In this new translation, derived from the most recently updated edition, each dinosaur is explored in just the right amount of detail for young paleontologists, as this book brings these magnificent creatures to life again. The book communicates the scientific facts about dinosaurs in ways kids can understand through both simple but informative Spanish-language text and kid-friendly illustrations clearly labeled in Spanish.

Gail Gibbons's books have won many honors, including the Washington Post/Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award and the NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book awards.

### 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



## El mejor peor campamento de todos

Joe Cepeda

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **TRANSLATED BY A NATIVE SPEAKER:** Every book in the iMe gusta leer! cómics line is translated by a native Spanish speaker.
- **AWARD WINNING AUTHOR AND ME GUSTA LEER® STAPLE:** Latine creator Joe Cepeda's previous books have received a Theodor Geisel Honor, Pura Belpré Honor, and named an ALSC Notable Children's Book. Five of his beloved I Like to Read® tiles have been translated into Spanish for the Me gusta leer® collection.
- **LATINE KIDS LOVE THE OUTDOORS TOO:** The book features a Latino boy and his father enjoying the fun and adventure of being active outdoors.

### Summary

**A boy and his father go on a camping trip where everything goes wrong! Or does it? From Joe Cepeda, a Theodor Seuss Geisel and Pura Belpré Honor Winner, this early reader comic is now available in Spanish!**

A boy and his father go on a camping trip! Despite one disaster after another, in the end, father and son agree it was their best weekend ever!

Simple text and comic-book style illustrations support comprehension in this delightful book, ideal for native Spanish speakers and Spanish language learners alike.

Like the father in the book, Joe Cepeda is of Latine heritage and he loves going camping with his son.

iMe gusta leer!® cómics provides emerging Spanish and bilingual readers and Spanish language learners with translations of popular I Like to Read® Comics titles that are perfect for 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 iMe gusta leer!® counterparts, these books are created by celebrated artists, translated by native speakers, and vetted by Spanish literacy experts to support reading comprehension and transform children into lifelong readers.

### Contributor Bio

**Joe Cepeda** 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 Hop*, and *I Help*. *I Hop* received a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor, given to the most distinguished books for beginning readers. Joe received an American Library Association Pura Belpré Honor (for outstanding books that celebrate the Latino cultural experience) and the Recognition of Merit Award from the George G. Stone Center for Children's Books. He lives in Claremont, California.

**Author Residence:** Claremont, CA

Holiday House

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\$8.99

Trade Paperback

40 Pages

Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Comics &

Graphic Novels

Series: iMe gusta leer! cómics

9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



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9780823460892  
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\$8.99  
Trade Paperback

40 Pages  
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2  
Juvenile Fiction / Hispanic &  
Latino  
Series: My Friend, Mi Amigo  
11 in H | 8.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Let's Play in the Park / Juguemos en el parque

René Colato Laínez, Nomar Perez

### Summary

**Joe and José play games in the park in this third bilingual picture book in the My Friend, Mi amigo series**

Two friends, an English speaker and a Spanish speaker, go to the park for a day filled with games and making new friends.

*Hi, José! Let's go to the park. Hola Joe! Vamos al parque.*

*I like to climb. Me gusta subir.*

*I like to slide. Me gusta deslizarme*

Perfect for preschoolers, kindergarteners, and first and second graders who are learning to speak or read English and Spanish. A delightful reading experience for bilingual families.

René Colato Laínez, a teacher in a bilingual kindergarten classroom, has crafted an ingenious story that authentically and naturally uses conversation to introduce children to English and Spanish. The fun friendship story engages children, while simple words, short sentences, and a glossary reinforce learning.

Nomar Perez, Pura Belpre Honor winning illustrator of best-selling children's books as well as greeting cards, has a bright, bold, colorful, kid-pleasing style that invites readers to befriend the characters in this book.

René was raised in El Salvador and Nomar in Puerto Rico.

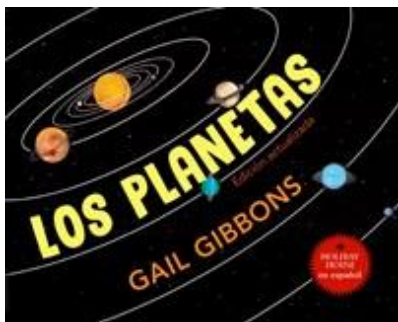
You will also like *Let's Be Friends, Seamos Amigos* and *We Play Soccer / Jugamos al fútbol* by René Colato Laínez and illustrated by Nomar Perez.

### Contributor Bio

René Colato Laínez is the author of bilingual picture books, including *Senor Pancho Had a Rancho, Vamonos! Let's Go!*, and *Playing Lotería*, which was nominated for the Texas Star Book Award – the K-6 bilingual counterpart to the Texas Bluebonnet Award. He is also author of *Let's Be Friends, Seamos Amigos*, a companion book to *Let's Play Soccer, Juguemos al Fútbol*. He lives in California, where he teaches a bilingual kindergarten class. Through his work as both an author and an educator, he hopes to help all children develop positive self-images.

Nomar Perez grew up in Ponce, Puerto Rico, where “an amazing array of colors, sounds, and flavors” influenced his artistic life. He is the illustrator of two 2017 Amazon Best Sellers: *All Day Long, God Loves Me* and *Everywhere I Go, God is With Me*. He is a staff artist at American Greetings. He is also illustrator of *Let's Be Friends, Seamos Amigos*, a companion book to *Let's Play Soccer, Juguemos al Fútbol*. Nomar currently lives in Cleveland, Ohio.





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32 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature  
8 in H | 10 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Los Planetas

Gail Gibbons

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **NEWLY TRANSLATED:** The translation was produced by a Spanish language expert for a new generation of readers.
- **KID-FRIENDLY TOPIC:** Outer space holds endless fascination for children, and many curious young readers have an insatiable appetite for facts about our solar system.
- **SPANISH AND BILINGUAL CLASSROOM TOOL:** This accessible nonfiction book has potential for countless lessons and activities in Spanish and bilingual classrooms.
- **IS PLUTO A PLANET?:** There's been a boom of space discoveries in recent years. Teachers who have longed loved this Gail Gibbons classic will be eager for a new edition with the latest information.
- **TRUSTED NAME IN NONFICTION:** With over 120 educational books published and hundreds of thousands of copies sold of classics like *Tool Book* and *Monarch Butterfly*, Gail Gibbons is one of the most accomplished and trusted authors of children's nonfiction.

### Summary

**A new Spanish edition of a nonfiction favorite for more than 20 years from science writer Gail Gibbons, updated with the latest discoveries in space exploration.**

From the burning surface of Venus to the freezing darkness of Neptune, Gail Gibbons takes children on a tour of our solar system—which are very different from each other in size, shape, orbit, and even weather.

Since its original publication in 1993, *The Planets* has been a home and classroom staple for introducing our solar system to the youngest readers. With her signature blend of clear, bright illustrations and accessible text, Gail Gibbons takes readers on a tour of our planetary neighbors, near and far.

This new Spanish translation is derived from the most recently updated edition, which brings the latest scientific understanding of the planets of our solar system to young readers. The bodies in our solar system are named, described, and illustrated in clear, well-labeled Spanish-language spreads that give a strong sense of shape and scale to our skies. Each entry is full of intriguing details about their composition, behavior, and moons.

### 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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Hardcover

40 Pages  
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Juvenile Fiction / Hispanic & Latino  
8.3 in H | 10.4 in W | 0.3 in T |  
0.7 lb Wt

## Los viernes comemos churros

Jenny Alvarado

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH-LANGUAGE CULTURAL CONNECTIONS:** Native Spanish speakers appreciate having access to reading material in Spanish that is culturally relevant to Spanish-speaking communities.
- **AUTHENTIC CUBAN REPRESENTATION:** As the proud daughter of Cuban immigrants Jenny feels lucky to have grown up in Miami Florida, a city filled with her culture as well as a multitude of others.
- **POPULAR SPANISH FOOD:** Latine readers will appreciate seeing churros represented from their culture, but readers across cultures will recognize the iconic fried dough treat.
- **RELATABLE MOVING STORY:** Countless kids struggle with the interruption of routine and traditions that moving brings, but this story presents a hopeful message about how traditions evolve and can still be enjoyed regardless of where a child lives.
- **URBAN COMMUNITY BUILDING:** A story of neighbors in an apartment building coming together to share in food, laughter, and community.

### Summary

**A girl and her dad move to a new town. And she's determined to keep their traditions, no matter how busy Daddy is! A fun Spanish-language story about family, food, and good neighbors!**

Every Friday, Emi and her Papi made churros for the entire familia. Now in their new apartment in the big city, Papi is always working, and there are no churros, and no familia, on Fridays. Until, Emi smells something sweet and delicious coming from her neighbor Señora Luisa's apartment.

Emi has an idea! Maybe she can make churros after all, with a little help. From Señora Luisa, she can borrow flour. Tomas in 312 has sugar. Marisol in 512 has a piping tip. Soon Emi's apartment is filled with the scent of fresh churros, new foods, and new friends!

A story of food and community, *Los viernes se comen churros* celebrates old traditions becoming new, and strangers becoming friends.

### Contributor Bio

Jenny Alvarado, is an author-illustrator living in sometimes sunny, mostly rainy, Florida. She was born and raised in Miami, Florida and is currently living in the Space Coast with her fiancé, son and little dog. As the proud daughter of Cuban immigrants she feels lucky to have grown up in a city filled with her culture as well as a multitude of others. She hopes to bring some of her experiences into her art and stories. Her debut picture book, *Agent Unicorn*, will be out in Fall 2024 with Page Street Kids. *Pencil & Eraser* her debut early graphic novel series will be released Fall 2024 with Putnam, Penguin Random House.

**Author Residence:** Florida

**Author Hometown:** Miami, Florida



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32 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Fiction / Readers  
Series: ¡Me gusta leer!  
10 in H | 7.8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Mi día con mamá

Rae Crawford

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **FAMILY DIVERSITY:** The story depicts a biracial daughter in a mixed-race family, mirroring both the author's own family and the family demographics of many Spanish-speaking and bilingual households.
- **MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOND:** The story features a warm and loving mother-daughter connection.

### Summary

**It's fun to spend a day with mamá! A simple story that young Spanish readers and Spanish language learners can enjoy on their own.**

A day with mamá is packed with fun! Visit the park, the art fair, the farmer's market, and more. Young readers can enjoy this simply worded story independently or cuddle up for some quality mother-child time of their own.

Don't miss the companion book, *Mi día con papá*.

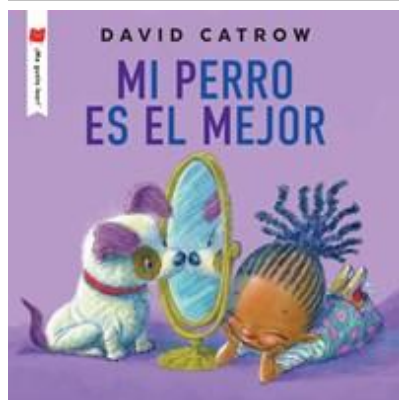
¡Me gusta leer!® provides emerging Spanish language readers with translations of popular I Like to Read® books. The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarten through first grade. Acclaimed author-illustrators--including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta 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

**Rae Crawford** is an NYC-based designer, illustrator, and comic artist, and a graduate of Pratt Institute. She is the creator of the comics *Broken*, *Send Help* and *Memecrossing*, as well as a three-time Semifinalist in Illustration for the Adobe Design Achievement Awards. Her website is [www.raecrawford.com](http://www.raecrawford.com).

**Author Residence:** New York, NY

**Author Hometown:** Chicago, IL



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Juvenile Fiction / Readers  
Series: iMe gusta leer!  
9 in H | 8.8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Mi perro es el mejor

David Catrow

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **TRANSLATED BY A NATIVE SPEAKER:** Every book in the iMe gusta leer! line is translated by a native Spanish speaker.
- **BEST-SELLING AND AWARD-WINNING ILLUSTRATOR:** David Catrow is a NYT bestselling author, has received *The New York Times* Best Illustrated Award, and has sold over 5 million books over the course of his career.
- **HUMOR:** Zany art and absurd situations are sure to get young readers giggling.
- **GREAT FOR DOG LOVERS:** Every kid in a dog family will understand the feeling of taking pride in your pooch.

### Summary

**This easy-to-read book about funny dogs and the kids who love them, by the creator of a New York Times Best Illustrated Book, is now available in Spanish!**

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!

Colorful, energetic illustrations featuring a diverse cast of kids and their goofy canine companions will make you laugh out loud!

With simple Spanish-language text, both native Spanish speakers working on their reading skills and beginner students of Spanish can read this story on their own.

iMe gusta leer!® provides emerging Spanish language readers with translations of popular I Like to Read® books. The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarten through first grade. 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](http://catrow.com).

**Author Residence:** Ohio



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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &  
Graphic Novels  
Series: iMe gusta leer! cómics  
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## ¡Ñam, ñam, ñam!

Diana Castillo

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **TRANSLATED BY A NATIVE SPEAKER:** Every book in the iMe gusta leer! cómics line is translated by a native Spanish speaker.
- **LATINE CREATOR:** Author-illustrator Diana Castillo grew up in Havana, Cuba before moving to Florida when she was young, and drew from her own culture and family in crafting this story. Her voice is a much-needed addition to the iMe gusta leer! line, in which creators of Spanish-speaking heritage remain underrepresented.
- **FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN SPANISH:** Did you know that dogs bark differently in Spanish than in English? In English, they go: WOOF! In Spanish, they go: ¡GUAU! Kids who love wordplay will be delighted to discover a range of onomatopoeic words in Spanish throughout this book, some that match their English equivalents and some that differ.

### Summary

**A little boy's imagination runs wild during family dinner in this easy reader comic, now available in Spanish!**

A little boy comes down for family dinner. There's food for each member of his picky family: black beans, plantains, flan, and more. Soon his imagination is filled with lions, elephants, and flamingos slurping, crunching, and munching on a delicious meal.

iMe gusta leer!® cómics provides emerging Spanish and bilingual readers and Spanish language learners with translations of popular I Like to Read® Comics titles that are perfect for 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 iMe gusta leer!® counterparts, these books are created by celebrated artists, translated by native speakers, and vetted by Spanish literacy experts to support reading comprehension and transform children into lifelong readers.

**Series Overview:** iMe gusta leer!® cómics provides emerging Spanish and bilingual readers and Spanish language learners with translations of popular I Like to Read® Comics titles that are perfect for 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 iMe gusta leer!® counterparts, these books are created by celebrated artists, translated by native speakers, and vetted by Spanish literacy experts to support reading comprehension and transform children into lifelong readers.

### Contributor Bio

Diana Castillo grew up in the colorful city of Havana and moved to Florida when she was very young. Having spent so much time surrounded by palm trees and beaches, Diana often jokes she's a mermaid in disguise. She completed her studies at Ringling College of Art and Design with a BFA in Illustration. She quickly went to work in everything from designing theme parks like Super Nintendo World-Japan and Orlando's Volcano Bay, to toy design for Cocomelon and tourism illustrations for Airbnb. Her free time is spent going on adventures with her dog Guenevere and watching movies.

**Author Residence:** Norway

**Author Hometown:** Havana, Cuba. Florida, US.



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Juvenile Fiction / Readers  
Series: iMe gusta leer!  
10 in H | 7.8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## ¿Quién ganará?

Arihthonni David

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **TRANSLATED BY A NATIVE SPEAKER:** Every book in the iMe gusta leer! line is translated by a native Spanish speaker.
- **FORGING FOLKLORE CONNECTIONS:** Although Mohawk author-illustrator Arihthonni David drew from his people's storytelling tradition in crafting this text, readers of Latine heritage will recognize the brain-versus-brawn race between unequal contestants through similar stories from their own cultural backgrounds.
- **BRAND-NEW NATIVE AMERICAN VOICE:** Arihthonni David, member of the Haudenosaunee Kanienkehaka (Mohawk) people, is a debut picture book author-illustrator with an adorable and colorful style.

### Summary

**Bear has fast legs. Turtle has a fast mind. Who will win the race? This fun Native American tale turned easy reader is now available in Spanish!**

When a quick-footed bear and a quick-witted turtle race across a frozen lake, Turtle has a secret plan to win! Written and illustrated by Mohawk author-illustrator Arihthonni David, this Spanish translation of an easy reader based on a Native American tale combines exciting storytelling and simple Spanish vocabulary.

iMe gusta leer!® provides emerging Spanish language readers with translations of popular I Like to Read® books. The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarten through first grade. 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!

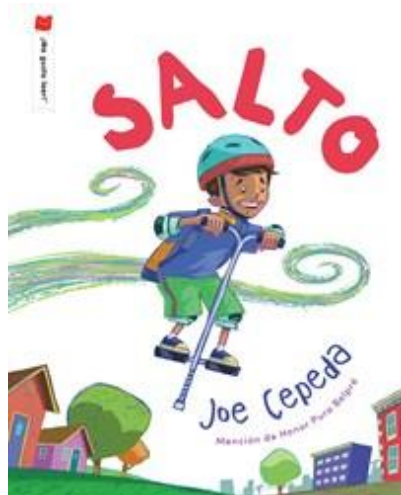
### Contributor Bio

**Arihthonni David** (Ah-Lee-Who-Knee) is an illustrator and storyteller from Akwesasne Ontario and a Member of the Haudenosaunee Kanienkehaka (Mohawk) people. Growing up with the legends and imagery of the Haudenosaunee people he developed a visual mind and love of art. He received his B.F.A. in Illustration and a minor in Indigenous Studies from Syracuse University.

**Author Residence:** Hogansburg, NY

**Author Hometown:** Akwesasne, NY





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Juvenile Fiction / Readers  
Series: iMe gusta leer!  
10 in H | 8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Salto

Joe Cepeda

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **TRANSLATED BY A NATIVE SPEAKER:** The translator has drawn from heritage understanding of Spanish and familiarity with the experience of learning to read in multiple languages.
- **REPRESENTATION IN EASY READERS:** This book features Latinx characters.
- **FAMILY FUN:** A sweet portrayal of a boy spending time with his grandmother.
- **CELEBRATED CREATOR:** Latinx author-illustrator Joe Cepeda is a Pura Belpré honoree.

### Summary

**This Theodore Geisel Honor book about a boy and his grandma is now available in Spanish!**

A boy hops around town on his pogo stick.  
He gets cheese.  
He gets bread  
He gets apples.

Very simple text and fun pictures support Spanish vocabulary and grammar comprehension in this delightful and brightly illustrated book.

*Salto* is a companion to Joe Cepeda's other iMe gusta leer! books, including *Arriba*, *Veo*, and *Cavo*, featuring the same curious, excited brothers exploring the world around them and celebrating the diversity of everyday life.

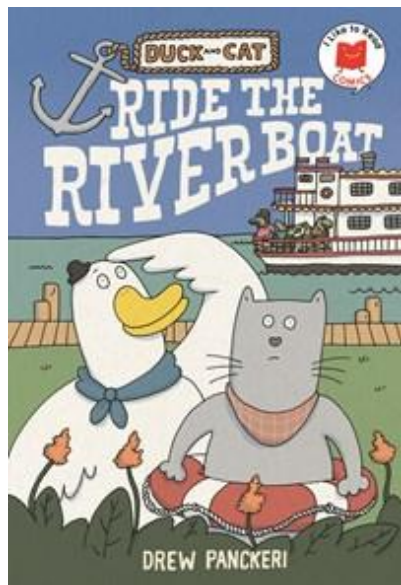
iMe gusta leer! provides emerging Spanish language readers with translations of popular I Like to Read® books. The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarten through first grade. Acclaimed author-illustrators--including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta 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:** iMe gusta leer! provides emerging Spanish language readers with translations of popular I Like to Read® books. The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarten through first grade. 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

Joe Cepeda 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 Laínez, and *Swing Sisters* by Karen Deans. He has written and illustrated several I Like to Read® books including *Up* and *I Dig*. 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.

**Author Residence:** Claremont, CA



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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &  
Graphic Novels  
Series: I Like to Read Comics  
9 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Duck and Cat Ride the Riverboat

Drew Panckeri

### Key Selling Points

**NEW YORKER CARTOONIST WITH FOLLOWING:** Drew is frequently published in the *New Yorker* and *Wired*, and has a constantly growing presence on Instagram, with 14,000 followers and high engagement on posts.

**VISUAL HUMOR FOR NEW READERS:** As a seasoned single-panel cartoonist, Drew uses wordless panels to create hilarious visual jokes—a great fit for kids who are just beginning to read on their own.

**TIMELESS ART:** The adorable character design echoes the fabulous work of James Marshall and William Steig, both inspirations to Drew.

**AWARD-WINNING SERIES:** I Like to Read Comics® is a series of early reader comics for kids who are challenged by or unengaged in reading, but who love art and stories. Two I Like to Read Comics® titles have been awarded the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award and Honor.

### Summary

**A *New Yorker* cartoonist makes his children's book debut with this delightful early reader graphic novel featuring a hapless duck, an anxious cat, and some very hungry crocodiles.**

What could be better than a boat ride with your best friend on a perfect summer day?

Little do Duck and Cat know that the other passengers on board the riverboat include a family of hungry crocodiles. Duck pays them no mind, but Cat knows a threat when he sees one. When dinner gets canceled, the duo must spring into action to make sure they don't end up on the menu instead!

This playful early reader comic has irresistible characters and a boatload of visual humor to support emerging readers. With timeless art reminiscent of the great James Marshall, kids will love the slapstick hijinks of Duck and Cat.

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!"

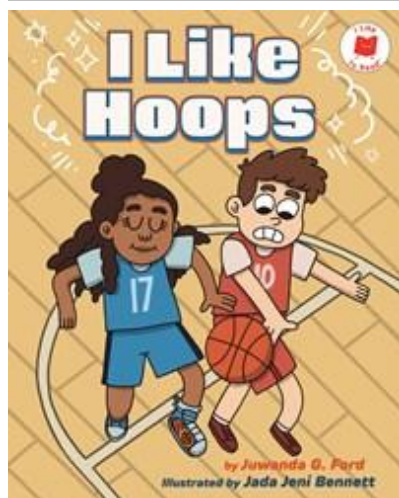
### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

Drew Panckeri graduated from the Art Institute of Philadelphia with a BA in multimedia and web design. Since then, he's developed a variety of occupations and preoccupations - working as a single panel cartoonist, a fine arts painter, and more. His work is frequently featured in the *New Yorker*, *Mad Magazine*, and *Wired*, and he can be found on Instagram @drewpanckeri.

**Author Residence:** Westwood, NJ

**Author Hometown:** Point Pleasant, NJ



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0.6 lb Wt

## I Like Hoops

Juwanda G. Ford, Jada Jeni Bennett

### Key Selling Points

- **KIDS LOVE B-BALL!:** According to research done by The Aspen Institute, the most common youth sport children ages 6-12 play is basketball (36.8%). (Soccer is second at 26.5%.) Basketball camps typically start at age 6.
- **BEST-SELLING AUTHOR & DEBUT ILLUSTRATOR:** Juwanda G. Ford is the author of the bestselling picture book *Together for Kwanzaa*. *I Like Hoops* is illustrator Jada Jeni Bennett's first book.
- **AFRICAN AMERICAN CREATORS:** Both Juwanda Ford and Jada Bennett are Black.
- **PHONICS FEATURES:** Words are listed and analyzed to enable teachers to place the book in their phonics programs.
- **AWARD-WINNING SERIES:** I Like to Read® books have won Geisel Honors (for beginning readers), Maryland Blue Crab Honors (for beginning and transitional readers), and have appeared on best-of-the-years lists.
- **LEVELED BY EDUCATIONAL EXPERTS:** Officially leveled by using the F & P Text Level Gradient™ Leveling System. Given the level I.

### Summary

**The game is tied. Can we win? This book is perfect for kindergarteners and first graders to read on their own.**

A close game of basketball, played by a diverse group of first and second graders, is full of suspense, joy—and good sportsmanship too!

With simple text, kindergarteners and 1st graders can read this story on their own. Rated level I by educational experts and includes phonics features.

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!

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

**Series Overview:** 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

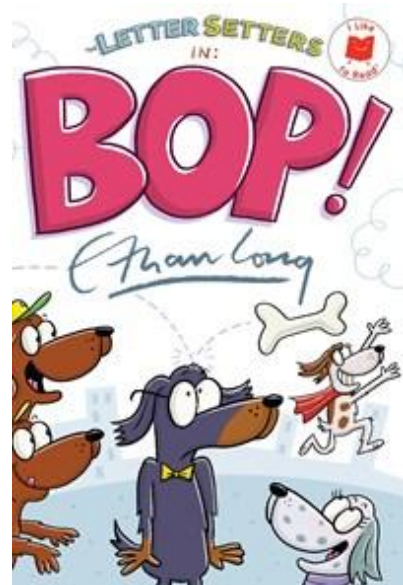
Juwanda G. Ford is the author of picture books and easy readers including the bestselling *Together for Kwanzaa*. Juwanda started playing basketball at her neighborhood recreation center in New Orleans, where she was most often the only girl in the game, but also one of the best players. She played college basketball and still enjoys playing pick-up games whenever she can.

**Author Residence:** New Orleans, LA

**Author Hometown:** New Orleans, LA

Jada Jeni Bennett is a recent graduate of The School of the Art Institute of Chicago where she studied illustration. *I Like Hoops* is her debut picture book. Jada lives in Boston, MA.

**Illustrator Residence:**Boston, MA



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## The Letter Setters in Bop!

Ethan Long

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCLAIMED AUTHOR-ILLUSTRATOR:** The creative talent behind over 140 books for children, Ethan Long is a daytime Emmy nominated, Theodor Seuss Geisel Medalist whose animation background and extensive publishing experience gives him an expert eye for what engages even the youngest readers to turn the pages.
- **FOLLOWS THE SCIENCE OF READING:** Research has shown that explicitly teaching the relationship between sounds and letters is the most effective way to support developing readers. With 10 to 20% of students having some form of dyslexia and amongst concerns of pandemic-based learning disruption, a scientific approach to literacy is more crucial—and widespread—than ever.
- **PHONICS INSTRUCTION:** New York City schools, which comprise the largest school district in the country, are shifting to include phonics instruction in the classroom. Explicit instruction of the relationship between sounds, words, and letters is crucial to not only teach students to read, but to develop them into readers.
- **AN EARLY READER FOR THE EARLIEST READERS:** With simple words and action-packed illustrations, The Letter Setters series fills an important niche in our early reader list with an exciting story and artwork accessible to even the youngest readers.
- **MORE ADVENTURES AWAIT:** Parents, teachers, librarians, booksellers, and collection buyers who love this canine caper can buy the next adventure in the Letter Setters series in Summer 2026.

### Summary

**Learning how to read should be a walk in the dog park! Follow four curious canines on letter-replacement adventures in this phonics-based early reader series starter from Theodor Seuss Geisel Medalist Ethan Long.**

Meet the Letter Setters! When their BONE is GONE, these dynamic dogs—Patrick (an Irish Setter), R.W. (a Red and White Setter), Victoria (an English Setter), and Gordy (a Gordon Setter)—sound the GONG and spring into action to retrieve their tasty treat.

In this engaging new early reader series from acclaimed author-illustrator Ethan Long, each story starts out with a four letter word. On the next page, one swapped letter makes a new word—and a new canine caper for little ones learning how to read! As this fresh and fun device propels the pups into silly, slapstick sequences, phonics help readers to discover new words, study how words relate to each other, and observe how text and pictures support one another.

Geisel Medalist Ethan Long's expressive artwork shines in these energetic, educational escapades that provide the youngest readers with the greatest adventure of all—a gateway into a lifelong love of reading. Detailed phonics features are included.

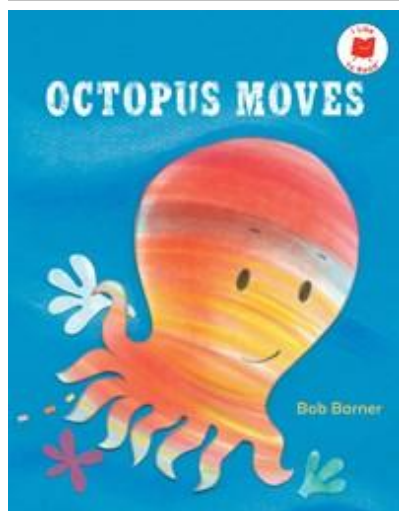
With fun stories and great pictures, new readers will say . . . "I like to read!" Created by award-winning-artists and talented newcomers and tested by educational experts, I Like to Read® books help develop vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension that lead to reading success.

### 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, CO





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## Octopus Moves

Bob Barner

### Key Selling Points

- **CELEBRATED AUTHOR:** Bob Barner has won the Parent's Choice Award, Teacher's Choice Award, and Andy Award. His books have also received American Bookseller Association "Pick of the Lists" recognition, Book Build West honors, and the Texas Library Association 2×2 Reading List.
- **PLAYFUL ARTWORK:** Barner's bright, inviting artwork pairs perfectly with the simple text to grab young readers' attention. The adorable aquatic animals, including a puffer fish, sea horse, sea star, and more cool creatures mean extra fun for little ones.
- **TEACHES TEAMWORK:** *Baby Octopus* celebrates cooperation and community. The sea creatures work together when Octopus needs them. Even when Octopus needs more help, no task is too tough for this group of friends!
- **SWEET AND SIMPLE:** Ultrasimple text makes this friendship story a shore thing for even the earliest readers.
- **ACCLAIMED EARLY READER SERIES:** I Like to Read® books have won Geisel awards and many of the creators behind the books include winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors

### Summary

**Octopus wants to move, but needs friends to help! Swim along with the ocean's cutest creatures in this sweet early reader for preschool-aged children.**

**Octopus wants to move.**

**Shrimp helps.**

**Crab helps.**

**Seahorse helps.**

Bob Barner has created a whimsical world where it's always okay to ask for help, and no task is too big with your friends swimming by your side. Parents will appreciate the emphasis on teamwork, cooperation, and community, while bright colors and expressive characters will make developing readers feel right at home.

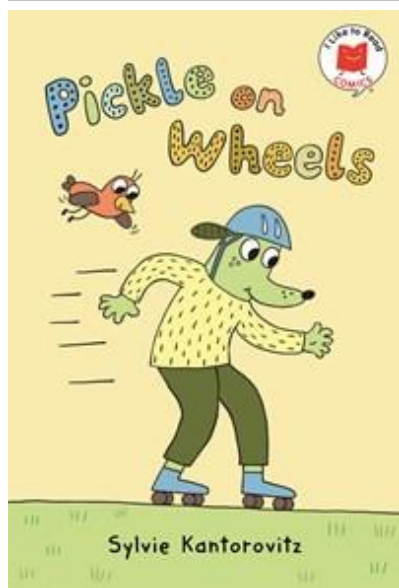
The award-winning **I Like to Read®** series focuses on guided reading levels A through G, based upon Fountas and Pinnell standards. Acclaimed author-illustrators—including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors—create original, high quality illustrations that support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

**Series Overview:** The 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!

### Contributor Bio

**Bob Barner** has written and illustrated more than twenty-five books including *Bug Safari*, *Day of the Dead/El Dia de los Muertos*, and *I Have a Garden*, an I Like to Read® book. His work has received the Parents' Choice Award and the Teachers' Choice Award. He lives in the San Francisco Bay area.

**Author Residence:** San Francisco, CA



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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 | 1.3 lb Wt

## Pickle on Wheels

Sylvie Kantorovitz

### Key Selling Points

- **LIKE TO READ COMICS:** An award-winning early reader series that uses the strong, unique relationship between image and text in comics to assist developing readers.
- **COMICS ARE HOT:** In PRH'S Overview of the U.S. Children's Book Market, beginning readers comics were identified as a growth area, specifically naming Holiday House's I Like to Read Comics line.
- **COZY & HUMOROUS:** With cozy artwork, Pickle is an adorable new character who turns everyday matters into silly adventures.

### Summary

**An easy-to-read delight about a dog who is determined to rollerskate, just like his hero...only he doesn't know that practice comes first!**

The irrepressible Pickle is back, and now he wants to emulate his favorite superhero who makes rescues on Roller Skates. But if you're going to learn to skate, maybe you shouldn't try it on a big hill! When Pickle finally learns to skate himself, he can't wait to share what he learns...until he gets the biggest surprise of all.

This humorous tale and adorable art will have kids giggling and reading on their own.

**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!"

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

Sylvie Kantorovitz was born in Casablanca and grew up in France. She studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and the Art Students League in New York. She's illustrated over 25 picture books, and is also the author-illustrator *A New Car for Pickle* (ILTR), *Zig and the Magic Umbrella*, *The Very Tiny Baby*, and her graphic memoir *Sylvie*. She lives in the Hudson Valley.

**Author Residence:** Hudson Valley, NY

**Author Hometown:** France



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Juvenile Fiction / Readers  
Series: I Like to Read  
10 in H | 8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## The Good Game

Arihthonni David

### Key Selling Points

- **UP AND COMING NATIVE AMERICAN VOICE:** Arihthonni David, member of the Haudenosaunee Kanienkehaka (Mohawk) people, is the author of the I Like to Read® book *Who Will Win?*
- **FOLKLORE INSPIRED:** Mohawk author-illustrator Arihthonni David celebrates his people's storytelling tradition by taking inspiration from a Native American tale about origins of the flying squirrel and bat.
- **FOR SPORT LOVERS:** Shares a fable featuring lacrosse, a sport that originated with the Haudenosaunee Native Americans.
- **LEVELED BY F & P:** Level I, Grade 1.
- **EXCITING STORY IN SHORT SENTENCES AND SIMPLE WORDS:** Perfect for kindergarteners and first graders learning how to read.
- **PHONICS FEATURES ARE INCLUDED.**

### Summary

**How can the small mouse and squirrel play lacrosse with the big animals? A fun Native American tale that first graders can read on their own.**

A game of lacrosse is about to begin—with the four-legged animals facing off against the winged animals. Mouse and Squirrel want to join!

But Bear and Deer won't let animals so small on their team. The birds would welcome the small animals, but Mouse and Squirrel can't fly. The winged team has a clever plan.

This Native American tale about the origin of the bat and flying squirrel is framed by a grandfather sharing a story with his grandson.

Phonics features are noted on the copyright page.

This book has been officially leveled by using the F & P Text Level Gradient(TM) Leveling System. It is a Level I for Grade 1.

The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarteners and first graders. 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!

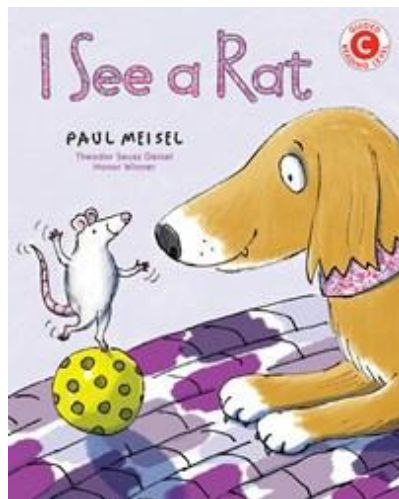
**Series Overview:** The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarteners and first graders. Acclaimed author-illustrators—including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors—create original, high quality illustrations that support comprehension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

### Contributor Bio

Arihthonni David (AH-lee-HOO-nee) is an illustrator and storyteller from the Akwesasne territory and a member of the Haudenosaunee Kanienkehaka (Mohawk) people. Growing up with the legends and imagery of the Haudenosaunee people, he developed a visual mind and love of art. He is the author-illustrator of the I Like to Read® book *Who Will Win?* He received his B.F.A. in Illustration and a minor in Indigenous Studies from Syracuse University.

**Author Residence:** Hogansburg, NY

**Author Hometown:** Hogansburg, NY



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Juvenile Fiction / Readers  
Series: I Like to Read  
10 in H | 7.8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## I See a Rat

Paul Meisel

### Key Selling Points

- **TWO-TIME THEODOR SEUSS GEISEL HONOREE:** Paul Meisel is the author-illustrator of the award-winning I Like to Read books *See Me Run* and *I See a Cat*.
- **OFFICIAL FOUNTAS AND PINNELL GUIDED READING LEVEL:**
- **GREAT FOR PET LOVERS:** Perfect for the kids who are always asking to have pet playdates
- **SHORT SENTENCES, SIMPLE WORDS:** Ideal for kindergarteners and first graders.
- **GREAT FOR HOMESCHOOLING:** For parents who want to support reading comprehension in their little ones, I Like to Read is a reliable and trusted beginning reader series.

### Summary

**Dog's nap is interrupted by an unexpected new friend! From two-time Theodor Seuss Geisel Honoree Paul Meisel, this Level C story is perfect for kindergarteners to read on their own.**

*What is that?*

*It is fast.*

*It is gone.*

Dog is woken up from a nap by a surprising new visitor—Rat! But Dog soon realizes that Rat is more like him than he thought. They both love to play! Easy-to-read text and fun pictures follow Dog and Rat becoming fast friends. Perfect for kindergarteners and first graders to read on their own.

A companion to his 2018 Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book, *I See a Cat*, Paul Meisel brings young readers a new adventure with beloved Dog and a new pet friend.

This book has been officially leveled by using the F & P Text Level Gradient(TM) Leveling System.

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 again and again with their parents, teachers or on their own!

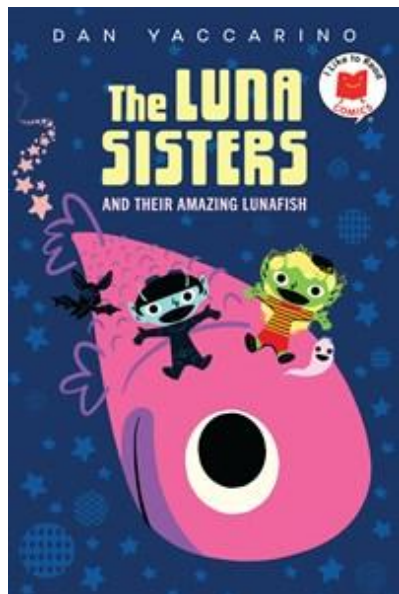
### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

Paul Meisel, who holds a master's degree in graphic design from Yale University, has received two Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Awards as well as American Library Association Notable Awards for *See Me Run* and *I See a Cat*, both I Like to Read books. *My Awesome Summer* by P. Mantis was honored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for Excellence in ScienceBooks, and *The Schmutzy Family*, written by Marilyn Rosenberg and illustrated by Paul Meisel, was a National Jewish Book Award Finalist.







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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &  
Graphic Novels  
Series: I Like to Read Comics  
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## The Luna Sisters and Their Amazing Lunafish

Dan Yaccarino

### Key Selling Points

- **AWARD WINNING ILLUSTRATOR:** Nickelodeon character designer for *The Backyardians*, Dan Yaccarino's picture books have been on the Texas Bluebonnet list, the Kirkus' Best Children's Book List, *The New York Times* 10 Best Illustrated List and a Chicago Public Library Best Book.
- **AWARD-WINNING SERIES:** I Like to Read Comics is a Theodor Geisel Medal winning series of early reader comic books perfect for first graders and second graders to read on their own.
- **SIBLING STORY, SCI FI TWIST:** Funny and imaginative, this exciting science fiction adventure brings a fresh take to the classic rivalry between artsy and nerdy siblings.
- **OUT OF THIS WORLD ART:** Dan Yaccarino's animation background is on full display with irresistible character designs, spaceship action, and imaginative world. Readers will fall in love with Luce and Nera.

### Summary

**Two sisters who live on the moon don't share anything—until they get a new pet. Join the Luna Sisters on an adventure across the galaxy in this graphic early reader.**

The Luna Sisters live on the moon. Lucy lives on the bright side. She loves being creative. Nera lives on the dark side. She is always building new machines. The sisters never share anything, until they get a new pet for their birthday—Moona the fish. The girls set aside their differences to take care of their fish.

But when a strange man comes to the moon, Nera sells Moona to the Aquarius Aquarium without a thought. It is only when Nera arrives at the aquarium does she realize her mistake! But is it too late? Can Lucy help her sister rescue their beloved Moona?

From Nickelodeon character designer and award-winning children's book writer Dan Yaccarino, this funny and action-packed adventure is perfect for first graders and second graders to read 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.

**Series Overview:** 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!"

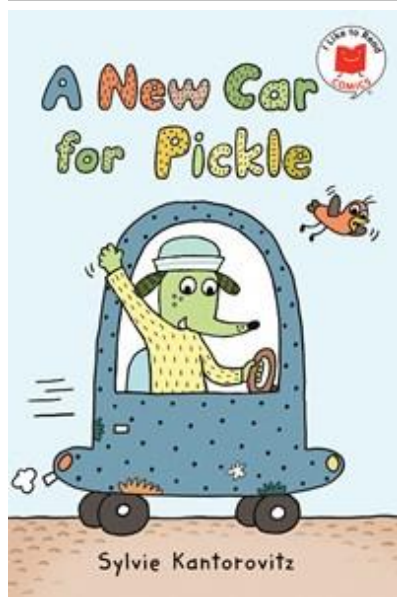
### Contributor Bio

DAN YACCARINO is an author-illustrator who has 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). He is also the illustrator of Holiday House's *Firefighter Flo!* and *Crane Jane!*

**Author Residence:** Kearny, NJ

**Author Hometown:** Clifton, NJ



## A New Car for Pickle

Sylvie Kantorovitz

### Key Selling Points

- **I LIKE TO READ COMICS:** An award-winning early reader series that uses the strong, unique relationship between image and text in comics to assist developing readers.
- **COMICS ARE HOT:** In PRH'S Overview of the U.S. Children's Book Market, beginning readers comics were identified as a growth area, specifically naming Holiday House's I Like to Read Comics line.
- **COZY & HUMOROUS:** With cozy artwork, Pickle is an adorable new character who turns everyday matters into silly adventures.

### Summary

**Come along with Pickle to find the car that is just right in this silly graphic early reader.**

Pickle just wants some fresh cream from the farm, but his car breaks down! With a trip to Coco's garage, he hopes to find the perfect car for him.

The race car? Too fast. The safe car? Too big. The fancy car? Too expensive. But Coco has an idea that might just save Pickle's day. This humorous tale and adorable art will have kids giggling and reading on their own.

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!"

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### Contributor Bio

Sylvie Kantorovitz was born in Casablanca and grew up in France. She studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and the Art Students League in New York. She's illustrated over 25 picture books, and is also the author-illustrator of *Zig and the Magic Umbrella*, *The Very Tiny Baby*, and her graphic memoir *Sylvie*. She lives in the Hudson Valley.

**Author Residence:** Hudson Valley, NY

**Author Hometown:** France

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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &  
Graphic Novels  
Series: I Like to Read Comics  
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



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\$8.99  
Trade Paperback

80 Pages  
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4  
Juvenile Fiction / Readers  
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Querida bestia

Dori Hillestad Butler, Kevan Atteberry

### Key Selling Points

- **SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITION:** The number of Spanish-speaking students in the U.S. is growing, including English Language Learners and children enrolled in language immersion education.
- **TRANSLATED BY A NATIVE SPEAKER**
- **AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR:** Dori Butler is a two-time Geisel Honor recipient and an Edgar Award winner with several successful chapter book series (The Haunted Library; King and Kayla; The Buddy Files). Her books have sold 300,000 copies.
- **ILLUSTRATOR WHO SELLS:** Kevan Atteberry is a beloved illustrator with a very strong sales track, having sold 500,000 hardcover copies of *Tickle Monster* (Compendium), in addition to 224,000 plush kits; *Boogie Monster* (Compendium) has sold 40,000 hardcover copies. *Ghost Cat* (Holiday House 2019) received a starred review from Booklist.

### Summary

**A jealous cat really, really, REALLY wants to drive away his young owner's new dog in this playful illustrated chapter book from a two-time Geisel Honor winner, now available in Spanish!**

Simon has taken care of his owner, Andy, for many years. He's a good cat. Clean, responsible, and loyal. What more could a boy want? Even when Andy's dad moves out, Simon is certain that Andy doesn't need another pet. So why would Andy's dad adopt a DOG?! To make matters worse, the animal is a rude, rowdy troublemaker.

Simon's job is clear: the beast has got to go. He decides to write him a letter. Strongly worded, of course. But when the dog's response sets off an unexpected correspondence, Simon realizes the beast may be here to stay. Can he make room for another pet in Andy's life?

This funny and heartwarming collaboration between Geisel Honor and Edgar Award-winning author Dori Hillestad Butler and bestselling illustrator Kevan Atteberry is a tribute to the love of a good pet - and the joy found in new friendship. With nine chapters translated into highly readable Spanish, accompanied by adorable full-color illustrations on every spread, this book is perfect for young Spanish speakers and Spanish language learners transitioning from picture books to chapter books.

### Contributor Bio

**Dori Butler** is an award-winning author of mysteries and books for all ages, including the King and Kayla series and the Haunted Library series. She is a two-time Geisel Honor recipient, an Edgar Award winner, and has been nominated for children's choice awards in 19 states. Dori lives in the Seattle area with her husband and their very large dog, Mouse. Visit her online at [www.kidswriter.com](http://www.kidswriter.com)!

**Author Residence:** Kirkland, Washington

**Author Hometown:** Minnesota

**Kevan Atteberry** is an illustrator who has written and/or illustrated many books for children, including *Ghost Cat*, which received a starred review in Booklist, and *Tickle Monster*. Many of his books have been bestsellers, but one of his biggest claims to fame is that he created Clippy, the paperclip helper in Microsoft Office. Kevan lives in the Seattle area. Visit him on the web at [www.kevanatteberry.com](http://www.kevanatteberry.com)!

**Illustrator Residence:** Seattle, Washington



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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &  
Graphic Novels

8 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Pumpkin and Beetle: Two Vampire Cats

Jannie Ho

### Key Selling Points

- **ADORABLE CHARACTERS & WORLD BUILDING:** Jannie's thought of every detail in Pumpkin and Beetle's cozy, spooky world from where they keep their baby fangs (in a baby coffin, of course!) to all the silly side characters they meet.
- **HALLOWEEN YEAR ROUND:** Halloween is not just for October anymore. The cultural embrace and widespread success of horror and Halloween-themed movies, TV shows, and books makes this a perfect pick for kids who like monsters but aren't ready for the truly spooky stuff.
- **TWO BOOK SERIES:** We have two books signed up with the potential for many more adventures.
- **RIISING STAR:** On the mass market and board book side, Jannie Ho's titles have sold very well. On the trade side, she's breaking out with such titles as *The Lost Mitten*, which was an ALA Best Graphic Novel for Children, and the Fry Guys series. We hope to continue to build her profile as a wonderfully creative graphic novelist.

### Summary

**Meet Pumpkin and Beetle, two vampire cat best friends, as they explore their cozy-spooky town together in this early graphic novel.**

Vampire cats are just like other cats, except they sleep during the day, they only eat red foods, and they go to school at night!

One night after school, Pumpkin and Beetle discover everyone in Hallowsville is reading the latest Frightfuls comic. Everyone except them, that is. When they check their wallets, they only have a quarter and a bug. Determined not to miss out, they brainstorm all sorts of ways to make money. They'll sell crabapples! They'll set carved crabapples! They'll sell carved crabapple muffins!

Will their silly schemes work in time? Will they be the only cats in town without the comic? As the two friends explore their community in search of a solution, they'll meet witches, werewolves, and other monster neighbors in this delightful adventure for young graphic novel readers. Jannie Ho's adorably cute art is filled with Halloween town worldbuilding. The book also includes a town map, a recipe for muffins, and even a sample of the treasured Frightful comic!

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

Born in Hong Kong and raised in Philadelphia, **Jannie Ho** moved to New York to study illustration at Parsons School of Design. After working as a graphic designer and an art director at many fun places such as Nickelodeon, Scholastic, and TIME Magazine for Kids, she decided that illustration was her true calling. Jannie (also known as Chicken Girl) now specializes in illustrating for the children's market, with her work appearing in both trade and educational books, magazines, toys, crafts and digital media. She currently lives in Boston, MA with her husband and daughter.

**Author Residence:** Boston, MA





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80 Pages  
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### Summary

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 Juvenile Fiction / Native American  
 8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## The Blossoming Summer

Anna Rose Johnson

### Key Selling Points

- RISING HOUSE AUTHOR:** The excellent reception to Anna Rose’s debut, *The Star That Always Stays*, shows her star is on the rise: it was an NPR Best Book of the Year, a Michigan Notable Book, a New York Historical Society Children’s Book Prize Finalist, a JLG Gold Standard Selection, a Bank Street Best Book of the Year, and much more, and was also recommended by ABC’S The Book Case. Her recently released second novel, *The Luminous Life of Landry*, is a JLG Gold Standard Selection, has received two starred reviews, and is selling very well. Anna Rose has the potential to become one of Holiday House’s staple talents.
- AN AUTHENTIC NATIVE AMERICAN VOICE:** Native American perspectives remain severely underrepresented in kidlit, with the success of books like *Indian No More*, *Rez Dogs*, *I Can Make This Promise*, and *The Firekeeper’s Daughter* demonstrating a tremendous appetite for these stories. Anna Rose, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians (Ojibwe/Anishinaabe), focuses exclusively on Anishinaabe heroines in her work. *The Blossoming Summer*, with its focus on “passing,” and the disruption of family and culture that comes from that, is especially poignant.
- UNIQUE WWII PERSPECTIVE:** Anna Rose Johnson’s sweet, nostalgic prose melds a classic sensibility with a fresh and much-needed perspective on history. WWII is an extremely popular topic that has rarely, if ever, been depicted through the eyes of a Native protagonist. *The Blossoming Summer* is perfect for fans of *The War That Saved My Life*, *The War I Finally Won*, *Paper Wishes*, and *A Place to Hang the Moon*.
- AGE-APPROPRIATE ROMANCE:** There’s more for Rosemary in America than family secrets! A touch of sweet romance between her and Murrel, a handsome blonde boy who loves plants and gardening, adds extra endearment to the warm storytelling.
- A TRUE FAMILY STORY:** Rosemary becomes extremely close with her mischievous, independent, and whip-smart grandmother, who drives a spotless Mercury and likes to say “Don’t be ordinary, Rosemary!” She also becomes extremely close with her Michigan girl-cousins, even if, at first, there are growing pains.
- CHRISTIAN APPEAL:** Anna Rose works at the intersection of Indigenous and Christian fiction, and her books have received an incredibly strong response from Christian media, parents, homeschoolers, and buyers. Her first book received a starred review from Redeemed Reader, won a Christy Amplify Award, was a Carol Award Semi-Finalist and a Lamplighter Award Nominee, and appeared in Christian media like Club31 Women (which called it “an instant favorite”). Her second book got a rave review in The Banner and was blurbed by four Christian authors. She has been embraced by the Christian and Christian homeschooling communities, and there is a potential for deep, continuing, and persistent sales there.

### Summary

**When English thirteen-year-old Rosemary is evacuated to her grandmother in America at the start of World War II, she uncovers the family secret—they are Anishinaabe and passing as white.**

Life in England is all Rosemary has ever known. . . but as WWII changes the world, no one’s life is left unscathed. Suddenly, she’s sent away to escape the devastation of London. Her grandmother’s house on Lake Superior is safe, but unfamiliar, especially as she discovers her parents have kept a tremendous secret.

Rosemary and her family are Anishinaabe—and no one is supposed to know.

Far from home but newly connected to a once-hidden part of her family, Rosemary develops a warm, close relationship with her grandmother... and a local boy whose love of gardening helps her to see the beauty in her unexpected circumstances. As Rosemary grows into her new life like a flower in bloom, she realizes that maybe she's not as far from home as she thought.

Tender, sophisticated, and sweet, this is a beautiful story about memory, family, and identity. Rising Ojibwe author Anna Rose Johnson addresses the trauma of World War II and the legacies of hidden indigeneity alongside coming-of-age milestones like first crushes, new schools, and beginning to imagine the life you want. Hand The Blossoming Summer to fans of Christine Day, L.M. Montgomery, and Kimberly Brubaker Bradley!

### Contributor Bio

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**Anna Rose Johnson** is a journalist, blogger, and seasoned correspondent for Inside Gymnastics. Anna is passionate about historical fiction, the Native experience, and writing for children. She is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; her debut, *The Star That Always Stays* (an NPR Best Book of the Year), is directly based on her great-grandmother. Find her at [annarosejohnson.com](http://annarosejohnson.com).

**Author Residence:** Wisconsin



Holiday House  
9780823457915  
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\$17.99  
Hardcover

208 Pages  
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy & Magic  
8.5 in H | 5.7 in W | 0.8 in T | 0.7 lb Wt

## Keepers of the Marsh

Maura Jortner

### Key Selling Points

- **HIGH STAKES, HIGH INTEREST:** This is a fast-paced and accessibly written story with a commercial package and loads of kid appeal. The magical elements and lighthearted voice keep the story moving toward an exciting climax, in which many secrets are revealed.
- **TWIN SISTER HEROINES:** The complicated sisterly relationship between Lana and Gracie is unique and engaging, unlike most stories that feature twins who are seemingly perfectly in sync. Their growing appreciation for each other over the course of the book feels earned and is genuinely heartwarming. Bonus: the author is a twin!
- **MARSH MAGIC COMES ALIVE:** Vivid details bring out light supernatural/fantasy elements that exist in a realistic world much like our own.
- **TEXAS SETTING & TEXAS AUTHOR:** The story's backdrop in hot, swampy Galveston is captivatingly portrayed by the author, who has lived in Texas for many years.
- **SOPHOMORE NOVEL FROM ACCLAIMED WRITER:** Maura's debut novel, *102 Days of Lying About Lauren*, was a Shelf Awareness Best Book of the Year and a JLG Gold Standard Selection.

### Summary

**Twin sisters team up—despite *drastically* different personalities—to save their family from a bitter witch's curse in this rich and atmospheric middle grade novel.**

Twelve-year-old Lana isn't looking for trouble when she ventures into the swampy marsh behind her family's home in Galveston Bay. She's just sweaty and bored and lonely, sick of sitting around doing nothing.

Her family never goes anywhere. Her mom and her sisters want nothing to do with her, and none of them will talk about their dead dad. With loads of unanswered questions and no other options, Lana decides to seek out the legendary Alligator Witch—if she's even real.

What Lana doesn't realize is that the Alligator Witch is very real, and has spent decades plotting her revenge on the town. When the witch swiftly casts a terrifying curse, the only person Lana can ask for help is her unfriendly and generally unwilling twin, Gracie.

Together, the twins embark on a memorable journey to make sense of the Alligator Witch's dark past, along with the unexpected role their family played in her descent. In spite of their differences, Lana and Gracie must unite to make things right and save their loved ones.

An enchanting read packed full of fascinating lore, girl-powered adventure, and just-enough danger, this story of sisterhood will keep readers turning pages. Hand to fans of exciting, lightly magical sagas like *The Midnight Children* and *The Jumbies*.

### Contributor Bio

Maura Jortner teaches creative writing and literature at Baylor University. Her debut novel, *102 Days of Lying About Lauren*, was a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection, received a starred review, and was named a Shelf Awareness Best Book of the Year. She lives in Texas with her husband, two daughters, and a cat that can do tricks. Visit her online at [www.maurajortner.com](http://www.maurajortner.com).

**Author Residence:** Waco, TX



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Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy & Magic  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## The Library of Curiosities

Jenny Lundquist

### Key Selling Points

- **A GENRE-BENDING DELIGHT:** With clever prose and a marvelous premise, the story also effectively taps into multiple genres: adventure, magical realism, mystery, fantasy
- **A MEMORABLE HEROINE:** Rowan is an indelible heroine: relatable in her imperfections, overflowing with curiosity, and admirable in her bravery. Perhaps most notable, though, is her empathy, which will have readers feeling for the story's villain right alongside Rowan.
- **A BOOK FOR BOOK LOVERS:** This richly appointed library's collection is the stuff of any fantasy-lover's dreams, with its catalog of magical objects that can solve patrons' everyday problems. (And the enchanting premise will have readers—including booksellers, and of course, librarians--smiling at its recognizable library culture!)

### Summary

**11-year-old Rowan Fitzgerald discovers the library her estranged grandfather runs is filled with magical objects—but only one holds the key to her family's mysterious past.**

After being expelled from boarding school—again—Rowan isn't sure what to expect upon arriving at Fitzgerald Manor. But it sure isn't this.

The estate is opulent. Lush. Grand. Mind-boggling. And at the heart of it all is Cillian Fitzgerald, her enigmatic grandfather, and his pride and joy: the Library of Curiosities.

Now, everyone knows that libraries are the best. But the Library of Curiosities is the best of the best, because its collection contains a vast trove of magical objects from which lucky patrons can borrow to fix their everyday problems. Still stuck on that language arts story assignment? Try writing it on the enchanted typewriter and see if that doesn't get the words flowing. Hoping to land the lead in the school musical? Check out a wishing sock. (Use high heat to activate.)

It doesn't take long for Rowan to realize that in this wondrous place, her own problems—her painful want of family, her deep desire for friends—might actually be solved for the first time in her life.

Except.

Except that library curiosities have started going missing, and suspicion is falling squarely on Rowan's shoulders.

Except that Cillian's dangerous archenemy, the vengeful and slippery Silverjack, now has Rowan in his sights, too.

Except that there is the ongoing matter of the Everhart curiosity, which hasn't been seen in years, but if found could help Rowan at last unsnarl her family's tangled, strange history.

To clear her name, to avoid capture, to locate the Everhart, Rowan will have to fight forces both within and outside of the library that threaten everything she's only just begun to hold dear.

**A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**

**Contributor Bio**



As the author of several whimsical middle grade and young adult novels, **Jenny Lundquist** is no stranger to literary magic. But she also finds plenty of real-world wonder in her home state of California, where she lives and writes alongside several beloved humans, one beloved rescue pup, and, more often than not, a beloved mug of coffee. Jenny received her MFA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University, and is proud to say she has never once enlisted the assistance of a magic typewriter. Visit her online at [jennylundquist.com](http://jennylundquist.com) and [instagram](#).

**Author Residence:** Huntington Beach, CA



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Juvenile Fiction / Stories In Verse  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Lilac and the Switchback

Cordelia Jensen

### Key Selling Points

- **KINSHIP CARE:** Kinship care is on the rise in the US - 4% of children live with relatives because their parents cannot care for them <https://www.aecf.org/topics/kinship-care>. The unconventional family structure in the book will be relatable to some readers, and familiar to even more.
- **EXPLORATION OF JUDAISM:** Lilac's biological dad is Jewish, and her exploration of that unknown identity is a major plotline throughout the book. (The author had a similar experience, learning later in life that her father had Jewish heritage.)
- **COMPLICATED TRIO OF FEMALE CHARACTERS:** Lilac and her best friend, Calli, find themselves in an uncomfortable friendship triangle when Calli grows closer to Lilac's cousin, Charla. Lilac is understandably jealous and left with hurt feelings as the trio navigates new friendship territory.
- **BEAUTIFUL WRITING FROM A DECORATED AUTHOR:** Cordelia is a critically acclaimed verse novelist with extensive connections in the kidlit community. Accolades include NCTE Notable Verse Novel, multiple starred reviews, and South Carolina and Georgia state award list nominations. Through her work at the Highlights Foundation, she is well-acquainted with many popular verse novelists and will be a great asset in soliciting blurbs and social media shout-outs.

### Summary

**A riveting middle grade novel in verse for any kid who has ever felt unwanted, uncomfortable, or unsure of where they fit in.**

Lilac has lived with her aunt, uncle, and cousin ever since her mom died. She already feels like an "extra" member of a family that doesn't have enough money or space.

Then she finds out her aunt is pregnant with twins, due soon after Lilac turns thirteen. How could they possibly want her around when they'll have two more kids in their crowded home? As she struggles to process her feelings about the pregnancy, Lilac drifts apart from her best friend Callie, leaving Lilac lonelier than ever.

In a timely twist of fate, Lilac discovers a check sent by her estranged father. Maybe he is the family she's been looking for... and maybe it's worth risking everything to find him. After all, how much does the "extra" kid really have to lose?

Poignant, and full of both growing pains and healing, this sensitive story told in lyrical verse is just right for fans of Jacqueline Woodson and Andrea Beatriz Arango.

### Contributor Bio

Cordelia Jensen has an MFA in Writing for Children & Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts and has published three verse novels: *Skyscraping*, *The Way the Light Bends*, and *Every Shiny Thing*, co-authored with Laurie Morrison. Her books have received starred reviews, state award list nominations, and NCTE Notable Verse Novel recognition. Cordelia has taught creative writing in a variety of settings, including Bryn Mawr College, Germantown Friends School, The Writing Barn and The Kelly Yang Project, and currently teaches verse novel classes for The Highlights Foundation.

**Author Residence:** PA

**Author Hometown:** New York, NY



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Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy & Magic  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## The Library of Curiosities

Jenny Lundquist

### Summary

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To clear her name, to avoid capture, to locate the Everhart, Rowan will have to fight forces both within and outside of the library that threaten everything she’s only just begun to hold dear.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

As the author of several whimsical middle grade and young adult novels, **Jenny Lundquist** is no stranger to literary magic. But she also finds plenty of real-world wonder in her home state of California, where she lives and writes alongside several beloved humans, one beloved rescue pup, and, more often than not, a beloved mug of coffee. Jenny received her MFA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University, and is proud to say she has never once enlisted the assistance of a magic typewriter. Visit her online at [jennylundquist.com](http://jennylundquist.com) and [instagram](https://www.instagram.com/jennylundquist).



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Juvenile Fiction / Health & Daily  
Living  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Light and Air

Mindy Nichols Wendell

### Key Selling Points

- **COVID INTEREST:** This novel about respiratory illness, contagion, quarantine, isolation, and recovery is a perfect way for kids to work out their feelings about Covid through the lens of historical fiction—making it of interest to librarians, teachers, and parents as well as readers coping with the physical and emotional impact of this moment in time.
- **ILLNESS HAPPENS:** More than 40% of school-aged children and adolescents have at least one chronic health condition according to a 2021 CDC report, and yet these lived realities remain in short supply on our bookshelves. Now more than ever, readers need stories that take on illness.
- **DEBUT AUTHOR:** A winner of the prestigious New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, Mindy Nichols Wendell combines her educational background with a gripping writer's voice to craft a compelling read full of topical themes that appeal to kids and gatekeepers alike.
- **HIDDEN HISTORIES OF INTEGRATION:** The J.N. Adam Tuberculosis Hospital was a completely unsegregated facility, treating Black patients as well as white. Complete with a diverse cast of characters whose stories have been omitted or erased, *LIGHT AND AIR* offers historical fiction lovers an immersive—and inclusive—setting.

### Summary

**It's 1935, and tuberculosis is ravaging the nation. Everyone is afraid of this deadly respiratory illness. But what happens when you actually *have* it?**

When Halle and her mother both come down with TB, they are shunned—and then they are sent to the J.N. Adam Tuberculosis Hospital: far from home, far from family, far from the world.

Tucked away in the woods of upstate New York, the hospital is a closed and quiet place. But it is not, Halle learns, a prison. Free of her worried and difficult father for the first time in her life, she slowly discovers joy, family, and the healing power of honey on the children's ward, where the girls on the floor become her confidantes and sisters. But when Mama suffers a lung hemorrhage, their entire future—and recovery—is thrown into question....

*Light and Air* deals tenderly and insightfully with isolation, quarantine, found family, and illness. Set in the fully realized world of a 1930s hospital, it offers a tender glimpse into a historical epidemic that has become more relatable than ever due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As Halle tries to warm her father's coldness and learns to trust the girls and women of the hospital, and as she and her mother battle a disease that once paralyzed the country, a profound message of strength, hope, and healing emerges.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

**"Richly detailed... Timeless."—Shelf Awareness, starred review**

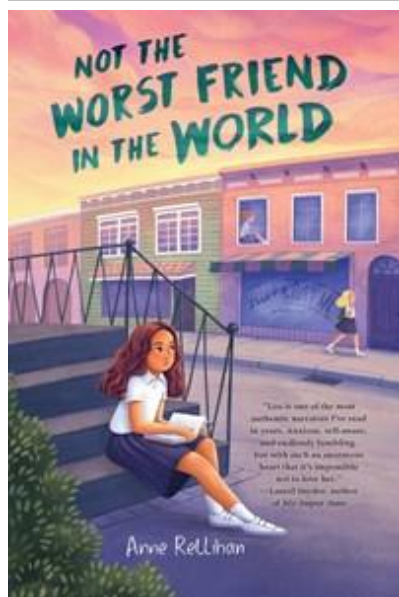
**"Emotionally honest... Satisfying."—Publishers Weekly**

### Contributor Bio

**Mindy Nichols Wendell** taught writing and pedagogy at SUNY Fredonia for many years, where she served as the Director of the Composition Program. In 2019, she received the prestigious State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Mindy lives in Western New York with her husband, Steve, a retired teacher. She is located not far from the ruins of the J. N. Adam Tuberculosis Hospital,

the inspiration for LIGHT AND AIR.





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

## Not the Worst Friend in the World

Anne Rellihan

### Key Selling Points

- **DEBUT TALENT:** This is Anne Rellihan's first novel and it is absolutely gripping from the first paragraph. The manuscript was selected for an Author Mentor Match program in 2021 and Anne was mentored by Megan E. Freeman, author of *Alone*. Anne is a former educator and has made other strong connections in the kidlit community.
- **FEMALE FRIENDSHIPS:** The focus is very much on the characters and their relationships. Anne honors the intensity of eleven-year-olds' friendships, and the particular fierceness of a middle school girl.
- **MYSTERIOUS KIDNAPPING:** Who can resist a possible kidnapping subplot?! Cece's backstory is one of those can't-look-away stories unfolding in real time.
- **REAL WORLD ISSUES:** This ordinary-yet-extraordinary story is set in a rural, working-class town. The families are nuanced and relatable, juggling everyday realities that will be familiar to most American kids.

### Summary

**Can Lou Bennett keep a secret? She'll do just about anything to prove herself to her new friend—and the best friend she betrayed—in this debut middle grade mystery with high emotional stakes.**

It's the thirty-fourth day of sixth grade, and eleven-year-old Lou wishes she could rewind time.

Lou wants to go back to the ninth day of sixth grade—the day *before* she fought with her best friend Francie and said the terrible, horrible things she can't unsay. Or better yet, she would go back to fifth grade when Francie was still the Old Francie.

Then the new girl, Cece Clark-Duncan, passes Lou a mysterious note. It says she was kidnapped. (!) If Lou can help Cece, maybe she can prove she's *not* the world's worst friend.

But as observant Lou uncovers the complicated truth about Cece's family, she starts to panic. Can she help Cece without hurting her? Or will Lou end up losing another friend instead?

Anchored by an outstanding voice and a page-turning mystery, this remarkable debut novel honors the powerful middle school friendships that can both break and heal a tender eleven-year-old heart. Perfect for fans of *Fish in a Tree* and *My Jasper June*, and pays homage to the great classic *Harriet the Spy*.

### Contributor Bio

Anne Rellihan is a former elementary school teacher and an alumna of Teach for America with a master's degree in education from Columbia University. She lives in Kansas with her husband and four children. When she's not writing, Anne volunteers as a Court Appointed Special Advocate. This is her debut novel. Find her online @AnneRellihan and annerellihan.com.

**Author Residence:** Leawood, KS



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Juvenile Fiction / Stories In Verse  
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## One Big Open Sky

Lesa Cline-Ransome

### Key Selling Points

- **AWARD-WINNING HOUSE AUTHOR:** Lesa Cline-Ransome's major accolades include a Coretta Scott King Honor, the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction, a Christopher Award, and many more. *One Big Sky* will be her tenth book with Holiday House, continuing a partnership that has created powerful, highly acclaimed stories from picture books through YA.
- **STRIKING VERSE:** The vulnerability and intimacy of Cline-Ransome's verse elevates her award-winning middle grade historical fiction even further, offering readers a movingly close look into the lives of three women searching for opportunity and freedom.
- **GO WEST, YOUNG READER!:** While settlers and the west have long held the media's imagination, the Black homesteader movement is an underexplored chapter in this timeless captivating story.
- **STRONG WOMEN, STRONG VOICES:** The women in this story face difficult odds, but their intelligence and perseverance makes them well-equipped for their journey whatever the road may have in store. With their aspirational strength and tenacity, these characters offer readers true pioneers that are easy to root for.
- **THEMES THAT RESONATE:** Cline-Ransome masterfully explores the ways in which freedom transcends bodily autonomy and examines the way in which other social structures, like patriarchal family hierarchy or poverty, shape the meaning of freedom.

### Summary

**Three women narrate a perilous wagon journey westward that could set them free—or cost them everything they have—in this intergenerational verse novel that explores the history of the Black homesteader movement.**

1879, Mississippi. Young dreamer Lettie may have her head in the stars, but her body is on a covered wagon heading westward. Her father, Thomas, promises that Nebraska will be everything the family needs: an opportunity to claim the independence they've strived for over generations on their very own plot of land.

But Thomas' hopes—and mouth—are bigger than his ability to follow through. With few supplies and even less money, the only thing that feels certain is danger.

*Right after the war ended/and we were free/we believed/all of us did/that couldn't  
nothing hurt us/the way master had when we were slaves/Couldn't no one tell us/how  
to live/how to die.*

Lettie, her mother, Sylvia, and young teacher Philomena are free from slavery—but bound by poverty, access to opportunity, and patriarchal social structures. Will these women survive the hardships of their journey? And as Thomas' desire for control overpowers his common sense, will they truly be free once they get there?

Coretta Scott King Honor-winning author Lesa Cline-Ransome's striking verse masterfully portrays an underrepresented historical era. Tackling powerful themes of autonomy and Black self-emancipation, Cline-Ransome offers readers an intimate look into the lives of three women and an expansive portrait of generations striving for their promised freedom.

### 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



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Juvenile Fiction / Legends, Myths, Fables

8.2 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.5 in T | 0.5 lb Wt

## The Selkie's Daughter

Linda Crotta Brennan

### Key Selling Points

- **DEBUT MIDDLE GRADE NOVEL:** This is Linda Crotta Brennan's debut novel. A lifelong educator, she's previously written nonfiction for picture book readers. She now brings her incredible research and keen eye for detail to middle grade fantasy readers.
- **CELTIC MYTHOLOGY:** Tales of selkies, mermaids, and other sea creatures are a perennial favorite among fantasy readers. Linda Brennan weaves in Celtic lore to create an accurate and imaginatively rich look at life in historical Nova Scotia.
- **NEW ENGLAND AUTHOR WRITES THE SEA:** Having lived in New England all her life, Linda's firsthand knowledge of fishing and North Atlantic customs makes *The Selkie's Daughter* a very personal project, filled with love and appreciation for the region's history.

### Summary

**A cozy, richly imagined fantasy where a young selkie girl must save her family from a vengeful king.**

Brigit knows all the old fisherman songs and legends by heart: sea goddess, warriors, and people who are not quite human. But Brigit also knows the truth. It's evident in the webbing between her fingers—*webbing that must be cut*. She's the daughter of a selkie. A truth she must keep secret from everyone.

But there is another secret growing in the village. A terrible one that will invite the wrath of the Great Selkie, bringing storm, sickness, and death. To protect those she loves, Brigit must find a way to Sule Skerrie, the land of selkies, to confront the Great Selkie and bring the truth—all of it—into the light.

Like sitting by a warm fireplace, *The Selkie's Daughter* is an imaginative fantasy, steeped in Celtic mythology and set in Nova Scotia. Debut Linda Crotta Brennan has crafted a magical portrait of a brave girl coming into her own. Perfect for fans of mermaids and Studio Ghibli-esque stories.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

Linda Crotta Brennan is the author of many picture books, including *When Rivers Burned*, named a Notable Social Studies Trade Book by the CBC and NCSS and an Outstanding Science Trade Book by the NSTA and CBC. She holds a master's degree in Early Childhood Education and has worked as an instructor for the Institute of Children's Literature. Linda is an active member of SCBWI. *The Selkie's Daughter* is her debut novel. She lives in New England.

**Author Residence:** Coventry, Rhode Island



## Sweetness All Around

Suzanne Supplee

### Key Selling Points

- **UNSTOPPABLE VOICE & CHARACTER:** Josephine is a force of nature and the star of this show. Her voice is raw with envy, empathy, affection, and all those almost-eleven-year-old intense feelings. She's a handful; her mother says, "I love you with my whole heart, Mary Josephine Willoughby, even when you're awful" and the reader will love her, too. Josephine is not immutable, though, and her character arc includes making mistakes, seeking forgiveness, and learning the ways of real, priceless friendship.
- **MYSTERIOUS KIDNAPPING PLOT:** Much like a pint-size true-crime enthusiast, Josephine tries to solve what is essentially a cold-case mystery on her own by piecing together fractured clues about her missing neighbor. As she gets frustrated by the lack of public interest in Molly's case, the novel also touches on the regrettable fact that missing girls are far more likely to be found when they're from rich families.
- **MIDDLE GRADE DEBUT FROM A RESPECTED YA WRITER:** Supplee's books have received a starred review, been named YALSA BFYA and landed on several state award lists. Her writing effortlessly engages the reader; from the well-drawn small-town setting to the atmospheric 1970s details, each page leaves you more interested than the last.
- **REAL WORLD ISSUES, SENSITIVELY HANDLED:** The story depicts class differences in an honest way and acknowledges the many discomforts of poverty, while ultimately honoring what these characters have in abundance: community. Parts of the story are autobiographical and based on the author growing up with a single mother in the South.

### Summary

**An indomitable heroine who believes she is destined to find her kidnapped neighbor leads this warm, big-hearted story with irresistible characters and a captivating mystery.**

Almost-eleven-year-old Josephine is NOT pleased to be moving into the Happy World trailer park over the summer of 1974. She misses her beautiful bedroom with ballerinas on the wall and her pretty, well-dressed friends. Happy World isn't happy. It's dingy and depressing! Nothing like the world that headstrong Josephine wants for herself.

But when Josephine learns that her would-be next door neighbor in Happy World was kidnapped months ago, she develops a begrudging interest in her new home. A kidnapping is exciting—and all signs point to Josephine being meant to find ten-year-old Molly.

Despite her efforts to stay detached, Josephine investigates Molly's disappearance with help from the eccentric cast of characters living in Happy World. It turns out the rough edges of her community are softer and sweeter than they first seemed. And the unexpected friendships she forms might be more precious than anything she's ever owned.

In her extraordinary middle grade debut, Suzanne Supplee brings a small Tennessee town and its memorable residents to life. Perfect for daydreamers and unstoppable imaginations. Hand this beautiful, bursting-with-feelings read to fans of Kate DiCamillo's Raymie Nightingale series.

### Contributor Bio

Suzanne Supplee is the author of several young adult novels. Her books have been honored on various state lists, including a Golden Sower Honor and the Louisiana Teen

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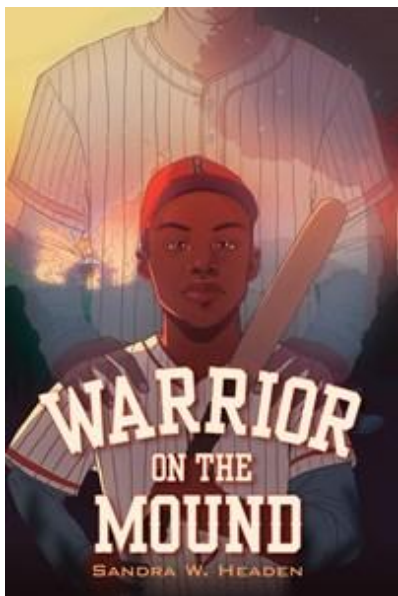
304 Pages  
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Choice Award, received a starred review from Publishers Weekly, and named a YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults. *Sweetness All Around* is her debut middle grade novel. Suzanne earned a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University and a master's in creative writing from Towson University. She lives in Baltimore and teaches English.

**Author Residence:** Baltimore, MD

**Author Hometown:** Tennessee



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Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.4 lb Wt

## Warrior on the Mound

Sandra W. Headen

### Key Selling Points

- **AN OUTSTANDING NEW VOICE:** Sandra Headen is a debut Black author with an academic background and a passion for American history. *WARRIOR ON THE MOUND* is well-researched, heartfelt, and exquisitely written. Although this is her debut, her writing has already been recognized and awarded by SCBWI and the North Carolina Writers' Network.
- **A BLACK PROTAGONIST:** Black children are still underserved and underrepresented in fiction, struggling to find themselves in the pages of books. Buyers, reviewers, parents, and librarians are eager to fill this gap--a gap *WARRIOR* perfectly addresses.
- **SPORTS HOOK WITH A SOCIAL MESSAGE:** Sandra skillfully uses the excitement of baseball to craft a compelling look at the experience of segregation for middle-grade readers.

### Summary

**Narrated by twelve-year-old Cato, this intense and evocative story of racial unrest in prewar North Carolina ends with a dramatic match between white and Black little league teams.**

1935. Twelve-year-old Cato wants nothing more than to play baseball, perfect his pitch, and meet Mr. Satchel Paige--the best pitcher in Negro League baseball. But when he and his teammates "trespass" on their town's whites-only baseball field for a practice, the resulting racial outrage burns like a brushfire through the entire community, threatening Cato, his family, and every one of his friends.

There's only one way this can end without violence: It has to be settled on the mound, between the white team and the Black. Winner takes all.

Written in first person with a rich, convincing voice, *Warrior on the Mound* is about the experience of segregation; about the tinderbox environment of the prewar South; about having a dream; about injustice, and, finally, about dialogue.

Back matter includes an author's note, historical background, biographical information about Negro League players, and more.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

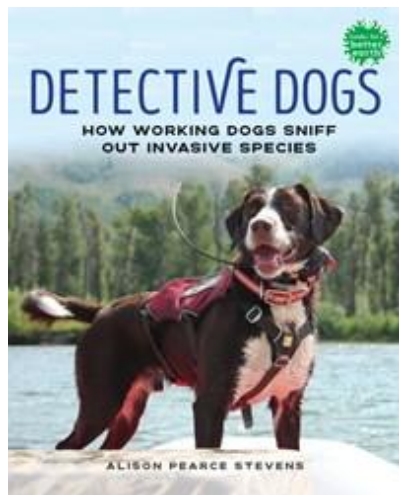
**"A HOME RUN."—*School Library Journal*, starred review**

**"NOT TO BE MISSED."—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review**

### Contributor Bio

Sandra W. Headen, a former teacher and researcher at Chapel Hill, is a full-time writer. Her historical middle-grade novel, *WARRIOR ON THE MOUND*, was awarded SCBWI's On-the-Verge/Emerging Voices Award for writers from underrepresented groups; in addition, her short story *PAPA'S GIFTS* (*The Carolina Quarterly*, March 2019) was awarded the Jones African-American Literary Award by the North Carolina Writers' Network.

**Author Residence:** North Carolina



Holiday House  
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\$20.99  
Hardcover  
  
64 Pages  
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature  
Series: Books for a Better Earth  
10 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Detective Dogs

### How Working Dogs Sniff Out Invasive Species

Alison Pearce Stevens

#### Key Selling Points

- **HIGH-INTEREST APPROACH TO A STEM TOPIC:** While the concept of invasive species can be difficult to grasp, the working dogs at the heart of this story provide an appealing entry point for young readers (because, who doesn't love dogs?).
- **APPEALING VISUALS:** The book is illustrated with energetic and adorable full-color photographs of the conservation dogs at work, most of them taken onsite by the author.
- **EXPERT VOICE ON NONFICTION FOR YOUNG READERS:** Alison Pearce Stevens, a conservation ecologist and award-winning children's science writer, spent months onsite with these dogs and their handlers conducting research for the manuscript. The immediacy of Stevens' narration, conveyed in her lively and conversational voice, grabs you from the first page.
- **BOOKS FOR A BETTER EARTH:** Recently launched to much critical acclaim, the Books for a Better Earth collection aims to inspire young readers to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for our planet.

#### Summary

**A lively introduction to some of North America's most troublesome invasive species—and to the industrious dogs and handlers working to stop their spread!**

Meet Fenton and Frost; Seuss and Deisel; and Hilo, Fagen, and Dia. These intrepid environmental detectives are on the frontlines of the fight to stop the spread of invasive species—and all of them are dogs!

Pervasive and often difficult to locate, invasive species, and the economic and environmental harm they cause, have posed a continued challenge to scientists worldwide who dedicate their time to ecosystem conservation. Now, environmental scientists are harnessing the amazing olfactory abilities of working dogs to meet this challenge head-on.

Ecologist Alison Pearce Stevens' engaging and accessible narrative writing showcases three ongoing conservation projects that use working dogs to tackle serious invaders in the U.S. and Canada. Readers will learn more about the threats posed by these species, and about the way scientists and handlers work with dogs to locate and eliminate them.

The book features extensive full-color photographs of detective dogs in action, taken onsite by the author as she accompanied conservation groups out into the field in Manitoba, Wyoming, and the Hudson Valley. Informative backmatter includes an index and bibliography.

#### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

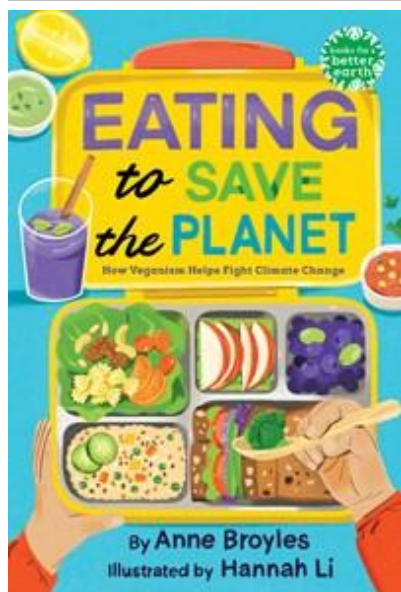
**Series Overview: Books for a Better Earth** are designed to inspire children to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for the planet they live on.

#### Contributor Bio

**Alison Pearce Stevens** has an M.S. in zoology and Ph.D. in ecology, evolution, and behavior. She has researched and written hundreds of articles for *Science News Explores*, *Highlights for Children*, and *ASK* magazine, among others. Her book *Rhinos in Nebraska* (Henry Holt BYR) details the discovery and excavation of one of the world's premier paleontology sites, and *Animal Climate Heroes* (Henry Holt BYR) showcases

four incredible animals working to protect their ecosystems—and us. Both were Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selections. She and her husband have three dogs, one of which would make a great detective dog.

**Author Residence:** Lincoln, NE



Holiday House  
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Pub Date: 8/19/2025  
On Sale Date: 8/19/2025  
\$19.99  
Hardcover

128 Pages  
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature  
Series: Books for a Better Earth  
9 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Eating to Save the Planet

### How Veganism Helps Fight Climate Change

Anne Broyles, Hannah Li

#### Key Selling Points

- **INTEREST IN VEGANISM AND PLANET-BASED DIETS:** For kids curious about what “plant-based” means, what vegans can and can’t eat, and other diet-related questions, there aren’t many reliable, kid-friendly resources for families to turn to. *Eating to Save the Planet* aims to address these questions and provide the larger context around how our diet is shaped by history, culture, and economics.
- **CELEBRATED AUTHOR:** Anne Broyles’s most recent book *I’m Gonna Paint* received four starred reviews. Her previous titles have received honors from the International Latino Book Award, Bank Street College, and more.
- **ENVIRONMENTAL COLLECTION:** The Books for a Better Earth™ collection is designed to inspire young people to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for the planet they live on.

#### Summary

**How do you change the world for the better? You start small. You start with what is on your plate.**

When we walk down the aisles of a grocery store, most of us don’t think about all the steps it took for each item to get on the shelf. Or how those different steps might impact the environment and even our own health.

With chapters that explore why we eat what we eat, the environmental impact of the meat industry, what terms like “vegan” and “plant-based” mean, and much more, *Eating to Save the Planet* is an accessible middle grade nonfiction title for curious eaters.

Supported by bright illustrations and infographics, this kid-friendly book is all about empowering readers to think critically about the food on their plate--how it got there and why it matters. Whether it's Meatless Mondays at home or advocating for better school lunches, there are plenty of ways for kids to get involved.

Back matter includes more information on nutrition, resources for further information, a bibliography, sources notes, and an index.

#### A Books for a Better Earth™ Title

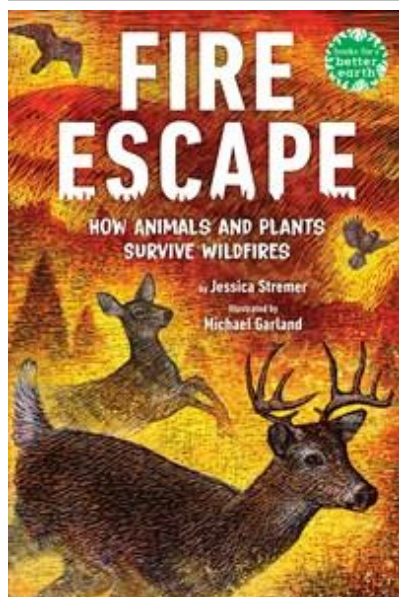
#### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

#### Contributor Bio

**Anne Broyles** is a world traveler, vegan cook, hiker, art lover, avid reader, and children’s book author. Her books for children include *Priscilla and the Hollyhocks*, which was named a Bank Street College’s Best Children’s Book of the Year and a Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People, and *Arturo and the Navidad Birds*, which received an International Latino Book Award Silver Medal. Anne is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation but can communicate better in Spanish than Cherokee. She lives in Portland, Oregon, in a multigenerational household that also includes three cats and a dog named Clover.

**Author Residence:** Portland, OR





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\$12.99  
Trade Paperback

128 Pages  
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature  
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.3 in T | 0.6 lb Wt

## Fire Escape

### How Animals and Plants Survive Wildfires

Jessica Stremmer, Michael Garland

#### Key Selling Points

- **HIGH-INTEREST TOPIC:** Not just in California now! They're everywhere from New York City to Hawaii. Frequently in the news and in kids' lives, wildfires are unavoidable these days and of particular interest to many regions in the US.
- **UNIQUE APPROACH:** The focus on animals adapting, surviving, and thriving during/after wildfires is less commonly covered. There is much that humans can learn from and utilize as we confront a future with more frequent wildfires.
- **MOTIVATED AUTHOR:** Jessica Stremmer's first Books for a Better Earth title (GREAT CARRIER REEF) was a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection and received two starred reviews, and she already has a third book signed up with us for Spring 2025. She is a stellar promotor with a nice social media reach and great research skills.
- **AWARD-WINNING NONFICTION ILLUSTRATOR:** Michael Garland received the Correll Book Award for BIRDS MAKE NESTS, and he has an extensive backlist of illustrated nonfiction about animals. There are 20+ striking spot illustrations in his signature digital-woodcut style.

#### Summary

**A timely middle grade nonfiction overview of the incredible ways animals detect, respond, and adapt to wildfires, as well as how climate change is affecting the frequency and severity of these devastating events in nature.**

Goats and beavers. Drones and parachutes. Pinecones and beetles. What do they have in common? Believe it or not, they are all crucial tools in fighting, preventing, and adapting to wildfires!

These vicious fires are spreading faster and burning hotter than at any other time in history. Ongoing droughts, warming weather, and a history of poor forest management have extended the traditional wildfire season beyond the summer months. It is a matter of life and death for wildlife worldwide.

This breathtaking nonfiction book focuses on unique angles to a hot topic, including injury rehabilitation efforts, species that use wildfires to their advantage, how to help area repopulation, and the animals that help to prevent/fight wildfires. A riveting, kid friendly text is accompanied by stunning woodcut illustrations and full-color photographs, as well as extensive back matter with glossary, sources, and index.

**Books for a Better Earth** are designed to inspire children to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for the planet they live on.

#### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

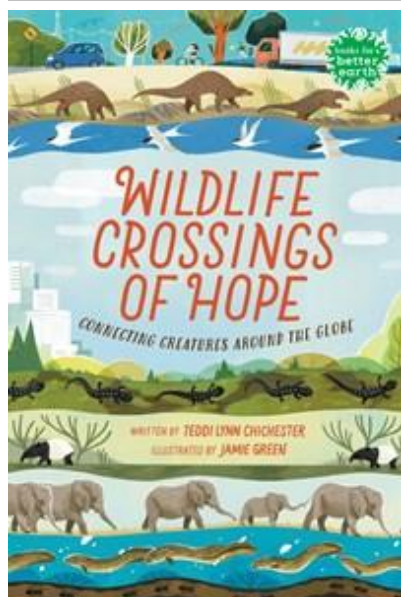
**Series Overview: The Books for a Better Earth™** collection is designed to inspire young people to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for the planet they live on. Focusing on solutions to climate change challenges, the collection looks at how scientists, activists, and young leaders are working to safeguard Earth's future.

#### Contributor Bio

Jessica Stremmer is the author of *Great Carrier Reef*, a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection which received two starred reviews. After studying biology with an emphasis in ecology, she began writing for children as a way to instill curiosity, wonder, and respect for our natural world. She lives with her family in Wisconsin. Visit her online at [www.jessicastremer.com](http://www.jessicastremer.com)

Michael Garland has written and illustrated many books for children, including *Fish Had a Wish* (Kirkus Reviews Top 25 Children's Books), *Tugboat* (Best Children's Books for Family Literacy), *Pizza Mouse* (Junior Library Guild Selection), and *Birds Make Nests* (Correll Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Informational Text and NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book).

**Illustrator Residence:**Patterson, NY



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160 Pages  
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature  
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.8 lb Wt

## Wildlife Crossings of Hope

### Connecting Creatures Around the Globe

Teddi Lynn Chichester, Jamie Green

#### Key Selling Points

- **FIRST-PERSON NARRATIVE NONFICTION:** The author visited many of the crossing projects in-person to observe and record wildlife. She also interviewed scientists, engineers, and community members involved with the projects, and she attended planning meetings, which she details for readers.
- **SCIENTIFIC CONCEPTS EXPLORED WITH EASE & SOPHISTICATION:** Using precise language and multiple supporting examples, the text walks readers through complex concepts step by step, so readers can understand why wildlife crossings are a lifeline for individual creatures and their larger ecosystem web.
- **TWO-COLOR ART:** Rising star Jamie Green will provide single page art and spot art as well as a full color jacket, all thoughtfully designed for an aesthetically rich and beautiful reading experience.
- **THOROUGH BACK MATTER:** Back matter includes actions for readers to take, a complete listing of the scientific names of all creatures discussed, source notes, a bibliography, an index, and more.

#### Summary

**We all need safe places to live and safe paths to travel. Animals, too. Meet the people who are stitching the planet's habitats back together.**

#### An NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book for Students K-12

Let's explore together how scientists, engineers, and lots of everyday people are working to make sure that the wildlife so essential to Earth's health and beauty continues to freely move through the landscapes, waterways, and skylines of this richly inhabited planet.

Combining first-person reporting with research and stunning two-color art from illustrator Jamie Green, *Wildlife Crossings of Hope* takes a personal, in-depth look at wildlife crossings, corridor projects, and dam removal efforts around the world, from an underpass for elephants in Kenya to the Un-Dam the Klamath movement in the U.S. to the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor, which extends from southern Mexico to Panama.

Above all, this is a book that invites young people to think of themselves and wildlife as part of one community that urgently needs restoration and protection. Back matter includes actions for kids to take, a complete listing of the scientific names of all creatures discussed, source notes, a bibliography, an index, and more.

Books for a Better Earth™ are designed to inspire children to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for the planet they live on.

#### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

**Series Overview:** The Books for a Better Earth™ collection is designed to inspire young people to become active, knowledgeable participants in caring for the planet they live on. Focusing on solutions to climate change challenges, the collection looks at how scientists, activists, and young leaders are working to safeguard Earth's future.

#### Contributor Bio

**Teddi Lynn Chichester** grew up in California's fertile Central Valley, land of farms, tule fog, and country western music. She spent many childhood summers hanging out with banana slugs and the world's tallest trees in Northern California's coast redwood forests, where her father worked as a State Parks Interpreter. She teaches writing and literature at the University of California, Los Angeles, and loves spending time with her

sons Alexey and Nicolai, her orange tabby Benjamin, and her horse Mischa. When she's not grading papers or reading books about the natural world, she volunteers at the nursery where native plants for the world's largest wildlife crossing await the bridge's completion. Teddi lives very close to Griffith Park, and though she never met the beloved mountain lion P-22 during her frequent hikes there, she still feels his presence all around.

**Author Residence:** Los Angeles, CA

**Author Hometown:** California

**Jamie Green** is an illustrator and maker living in Chicago, IL. While growing up on the beaches of Florida, they nearly changed their career path to Marine Biology. Now, they find joy in the happy medium of illustrating the natural world. They were named the 2019 Society of Illustrators Zankel scholar in 2019, and graduated from Ringling College of Art and Design in 2020.

**Illustrator Residence:**Chicago, IL

**Illustrator Hometown:**Melbourne, FL



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\$19.99  
Hardcover

368 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

## And the Trees Stare Back

Gigi Griffis

### Key Selling Points

- **HORROR IS HOT:** Horror is topping bestseller lists. The recent success of *The Spirit Bears Its Teeth* demonstrates the hunger for historical horror from marginalized voices—stories that unpack and reflect the very real existential threats teens face in a fraught sociopolitical landscape. Witchy, folk horror elements like Vik's affinity for oracle cards add extra commercial appeal.
- **EVER-RELEVANT SOCIOPOLITICAL THEMES:** *And The Trees Stare Back* may be historical, but its pressing themes reflect modern teenagers' lived realities. As *Trees* digs deep into bodily autonomy and questions of whose lives matter, there's a monster at the end of this book teens are all too familiar with—a state whose ultimate indifference to the lives of marginalized people is the greatest threat of all.
- **AUTHENTIC LGBTQ+ AND NEURODIVERSE REP:** Vik's voice is visceral, immediate, and gripping, adding real psychic depth to the narrative. Gigi's authentic depiction of OCD, CPTSD, and subtly-realized queerness offers even deeper thematic heft and much-needed representation for often-misunderstood mental health conditions.
- **UNDEREXPLORED HISTORY:** Although Katherine Locke and Ruta Sepetys' success demonstrates interest in Eastern European history, little has been written about Estonia—certainly not from a queer or neurodiverse perspective. Gigi's extensive research (she formerly lived in Estonia and interviewed locals who lived there during this period) grants *Trees* its richly immersive setting that's sure to transport readers back in time (and to the bookstore).

### Summary

**Many go into the forest. Only one comes back.**

1989, Soviet Estonia. In sixteen-year-old Vik's village—and the cursed forest that looms beyond—danger is everywhere. Soldiers threaten those who so much as dream of dissent. The villagers' words are sharp with accusations of witchcraft. And deep in the heart of the wood, a lantern-eyed spirit lies in wait to disappear those who wander too far past the trees.

Vik knows because five years ago, she led her little sister Anna over that invisible line—and never saw her again.

The only thing Vik has wished for since then is her sister's safe return. So when Anna stumbles back through the tree line on the anniversary of her disappearance, it's a miracle...

Or is it a lie?

As unsettling inconsistencies between this girl and the one who vanished reveal themselves, Vik starts to doubt whether this Anna is her Anna—or something else entirely. Whoever she is, one thing is clear: she was never meant to escape the trees.

And unless Vik can uncover the secrets of the forest, it's going to take her back.

Rooted in real history with a speculative twist, the horrors of *And The Trees Stare Back* are the ones we already know: existing as a marginalized person under a hostile state. Raising powerful questions about whose humanity counts and how to survive if the governing body decides yours doesn't, this politically incisive folk-horror irresistibly explores ever-relevant legacies of activism and solidarity.



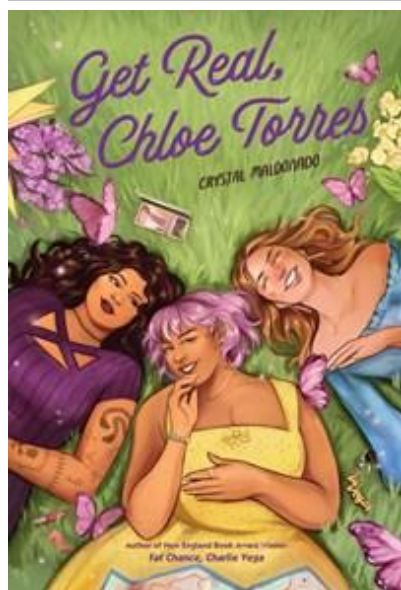
## A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

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**Gigi Griffis** is the author of the Netflix tie-in novel *The Empress* and creepy YA horror *The Wicked Unseen* (2023), *We Are The Beasts* (2024), and *And The Trees Stare Back* (2025), among other things. She's a sucker for little-known histories, "unlikable" female characters, and all things Europe. After almost ten years of semi-nomadic life, she now lives in Portugal with an opinionated Yorkie-mix named Luna and a collection of very nerdy books. Gigi's work has been translated into 19+ languages, and she has been featured in *Teen Vogue*, *Netflix Tudum*, *The New York Times*, *Salon*, *Gay Times*, and more.

**Author Residence:** Portugal



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Hardcover

240 Pages  
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Young Adult Fiction / Romance  
8.5 in H | 5.8 in W | 0.9 in T | 0.7 lb Wt

## Get Real, Chloe Torres

Crystal Maldonado

### Key Selling Points

- **A HOUSE STAR:** Readers respond incredibly strongly to Crystal's Latine, queer, fat positive YA stories—and the much-needed representation they offer—which are fresh and fun without shying away from real emotional sincerity. She's a staple on the shelves who has built serious name recognition, and *Grow Up, Chloe Torres* is sure to win her more fans.
- **RAVE REVIEWS:** All of Crystal's YA has been spectacularly well received, with a long list of accolades: her books have been a New England Book Award winner, an NPR Best Book of the Year, an Amazon Best Book of the Year, a POPSUGAR Best YA, a Seventeen Best YA, a Cosmopolitan Best YA, a Good Housekeeping Best YA, a Nerdist Most Anticipated Book, a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection, a Kirkus Reviews Best YA of the Year, a YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults Nominee, and many, many more honors.
- **ULTIMATE SUMMER BOOK:** This road trip has it all: matching tattoos, hot-tub makeouts, even Niagra Falls! *Grow Up, Chloe Torres* is an aspirational adventure for teens on the cusp of the rest of their lives. Anyone looking for the perfect cool-for-the-summer YA contemporary will want to check this one off their list!
- **QUEER FRIENDS-TO-LOVERS:** It's been years since Chloe and her best friends talked... and now, they might do a little more than that. What starts off as a besties road trip quickly becomes a messy and unforgettable sapphic love triangle, with a HEA between two women. Crystal is bisexual, and this is her first explicitly queer book.
- **ADHD REPRESENTATION:** Boys are three times more likely than girls to receive an ADHD diagnosis. Small details like Chloe's time blindness and post-it reminders will help girls who have ADHD to feel seen—and they'll see someone like themselves graduating high school, going to a prestigious college, and driving down the road to her artistic dreams.
- **FOR POP FANGIRLS:** For anyone who's ever walked along the side of a highway to attend a Taylor Swift concert or languished in Ticketmaster purgatory for the chance to swoon over their favorite K-pop group, *Grow Up, Chloe Torres* is a love letter to the girls who carry the weight of the music industry and have been transformed by the fangirl experience. Calling all Swifties, Armies, Arianators, Kittenz, etc.!

### Summary

**When Chloe Torres plans the perfect summer to reunite her estranged BFFs—a cross-country road trip to see their favorite boy band!—there's only one difficulty... getting them to actually go along for the ride.**

Chloe Torres' birthday has always marked the end of summer—but as she turns eighteen and prepares to leave for her freshman year of art school, it feels like the end of more than that. It's the end of her adolescence, which means it's time to leave the past behind... but can she really let go of the two estranged best friends she left there?

NOPE. Chloe decides to take one more shot at healing the friend breakup she's always regretted: planning the bucket-list trip neither girl can say no to. She's taken care of everything: the car, the hotels, and concert tickets to see their favorite boy band's reunion show in Las Vegas—stage seats, so close they can fangirl right in front of the boys' faces. But first, her ex-BFFs have to say yes.

And to say yes, they'd all have to be talking... which they haven't done since Ramona kissed Chloe, and everything imploded.

But with some clever finagling (and some undignified begging) Chloe gets them all on

board. Of course, being in a car together for two weeks brings back old feelings... a lot of old feelings... and soon enough, Chloe wants Sienna, Ramona wants Chloe, and everything is on fireeeee.

This sizzling summer adventure from YA star Crystal Maldonado is a hilarious and heartfelt romcom with a little something for everyone: fat positivity, sapphic romance, a blazing love triangle, ADHD representation, a diversity of Latine identities, a once-in-a-lifetime roadtrip—and the perfect it’s-finally-happening kiss.

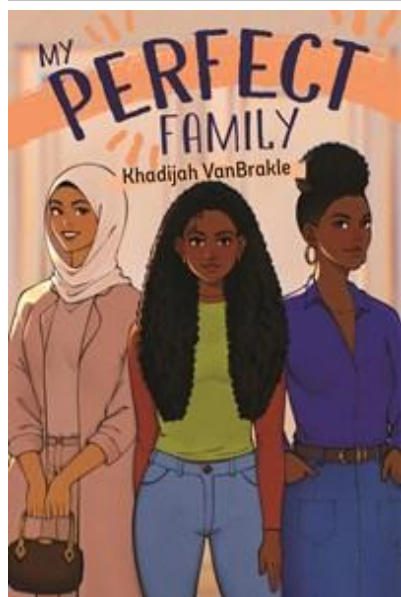
### **A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**

#### **Contributor Bio**

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**Crystal Maldonado** is a young adult author of inclusive romcoms for fat, brown girls. She has written the award-winning novels *The Fall of Whit Rivera*; *Fat Chance*, *Charlie Vega*; and *No Filter and Other Lies*, as well as a middle grade novel called *Camp Sylvania: Moon Madness*, co-written with #1 New York Times bestselling author Julie Murphy. Her forthcoming YA romcom, *Get Real, Chloe Torres*, releases in spring 2025. Follow her everywhere @crystalwrote.

**Author Residence:** Amherst, MA



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Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up  
Young Adult Fiction / Coming Of Age  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## My Perfect Family

Khadijah VanBrakle

### Key Selling Points

- **A BLACK MUSLIM VOICE:** There is a real desire for more Muslim voices in YA among buyers, reviewers, and tastemakers, and those few women who are writing contemporary fiction are succeeding: Samira Ahmed, Taherah Mafi, Jasmine Warga, Aisha Saeed, etc. A truly intersectional novel, *My Perfect Family* explores what it means to be a Black Muslim woman with VanBrakle's signature warmth, frankness, and wit.
- **INTERGENERATIONAL INTRIGUE:** This is Muslim *Gilmore Girls* for the YA set! Centering a close but complex relationship between a young single mother and a headstrong daughter, this warm but unapologetically messy YA is sure to compel readers with the secrets that emerge as Leena connects with her estranged family.
- **NUANCED EXPLORATION OF RELIGION:** As Leena engages with her family's religion for the first time, she encounters both conservative and relaxed approaches to Islam. Her aunt Samira's dedication to Islam balances her mother's total rejection of these traditions for a thoughtful exploration of the myriad roles religion can play in an individual's life.
- **A BOOK FOR BOOK LOVERS:** Leena loves YA. Although she faces some difficult choices in this novel, she—and the readers who will relate and resonate!—know that there's no wrong choice when it comes to grabbing a book off the shelves.
- **SWEET ROMANCE:** While cute Muslim boy Mo will grab readers' attention as he does Leena's, the focus here is on the familial bonds—complex, resonant, and deeply truthful—between women. *My Perfect Family* is perfect for readers who prefer a light romantic element, with men decentered and women taking center stage.

### Summary

**Sixteen-year-old Leena has always wished for a big family... but when she discovers she has a Muslim grandfather and aunt she never knew, she learns that family comes with tangled histories she may not be able to heal.**

"Lonely Leena" is close with her young single mother. Still, she's always secretly dreamed of more (and, when she was a kid, asked Santa for it). A huge family to cheer her on at graduation. A gaggle of smiling faces at the holidays. But one call from the hospital, and her mother's hidden past comes to light: Her grandfather is in the ER, and her aunt is with him in recovery. Sorry—her WHO?

But with family comes family secrets—Leena's mom's, and as Leena grows close with her new family behind her mother's back, her own. Leena's mom warns that Leena's grandfather Tariq's financial generosity doesn't come without strings attached... like Leena converting to Islam, fighting for a spot at a top university, and adhering to the restrictive rules that she ran from all those years ago. Leena isn't sure who to trust, yet she's certain that she adores Tariq and her mom—and that she's the only one who could heal old hurts. After so many years, is it even possible? And if she can't, will she have to choose between them?

A big family was the dream, but all this drama isn't.

Warm, witty, and sometimes serious, *My Perfect Family* is a poignant intergenerational narrative that gives voice to Black Muslim women. A thoughtful examination of the intersection between gender and religion, Khadijah VanBrakle's sophomore novel is a heartfelt tale of forging one's own path... while loving those who stay by your side.

### Contributor Bio

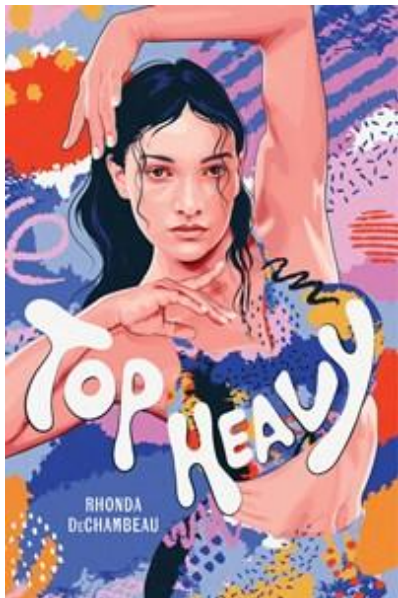
**Khadijah VanBrakle** is a proud New Mexican, mother of five, and Black Muslim

woman. She is active in running her local SCBWI chapter and as an administrator at the Black Creators HQ, and she was also selected for the Highlights Foundation Muslim Storytellers Fellowship in 2021. She lives in Albuquerque with her family.

**Author Residence:** Albuquerque, NM

**Author Hometown:** Albuquerque, NM





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Young Adult Fiction / Social  
Themes

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Top Heavy

Rhonda Dechambeau

### Key Selling Points

- **CONFRONTS THE EMOTIONAL WEIGHT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT:** Esme is groped on a crowded dance floor—a scene that is, unfortunately, relatable to more readers than not—and feels all the feels afterward: shame, regret, depression... But with the support of family and friends, she eventually comes through with a better understanding of herself and her own strength.
- **BODY NEUTRALITY ELEMENT:** This is a great read for teens who don't necessarily feel comfortable in the body-positivity community, but still want to accept (and even celebrate!) their appearance.
- **PROVOCATIVE DISCUSSION OF CLASS:** When an anonymous donor pays Esme's dance tuition, she is relieved... until she realizes it was her friend Mia's parents. Their fundamentally different attitudes toward money play a significant role in their conflict, providing a fascinating look at class and social dynamics from a teen perspective.
- **SWEET, UPLIFTING ROMANCE:** Esme's budding romance with her classmate, Todd, provides a safe space for her when everywhere else feels too fraught. Their irresistible cuteness is a welcome lightness in the heavy narrative—skipping the romantic drama.
- **SECRETS OF THE DANCE WORLD:** Dancers are glamorized across all forms of media; this is a gritty, intimate look at the hard work and intense relationships forged behind the scenes of the competitive dance world.
- **STUNNING DEBUT VERSE NOVEL, WON IN A PRE-EMPT:** Holiday House was quick to offer Rhonda a two-book deal to take this project off the table. Shortly before going on submission, Rhonda completed the prestigious Boston Public Library Writer-in-Residence fellowship. Her second YA novel in verse is scheduled for Fall 2026.

### Summary

**This heart-stopping debut novel in verse about a talented dancer struggling to give herself grace in the wake of an assault is a gut-wrenching masterpiece.**

Fifteen-year-old Esme lives and breathes dance. Alongside her best friend, Mia, she is happiest when in the studio... sweating, stretching, soaring. And after a summer of nonstop practice, Esme and Mia earn coveted spots on the Elite dance team. Now that they've proven themselves to Miss Regina and the senior girls, it should be smooth sailing.

*Except* that Esme and Mia took the spots of two popular, well-liked dancers.  
*Except* that Esme's dad hasn't been able to work for months, and there's hardly enough money for groceries, never mind dance tuition and recital costumes.  
*Except* that a stranger touches Esme during a night out, touches the breasts that have always felt like giant targets.

After years of being oversexualized for her large chest, this is the violation that pushes Esme over the edge. Was it her fault? Could she have stopped it? Why can't she just be different? Esme stumbles, off kilter and adrift from her loved ones, struggling to find the strong, central cord that will pull her up and allow her to soar again.

This dazzling, tour-de-force debut tackles friendship, first love, and sexual assault, along with the full emotional range of life as a teenage girl. Esme musters strength she didn't know she had—and learns to lean on others to find the right support. An unforgettable read.

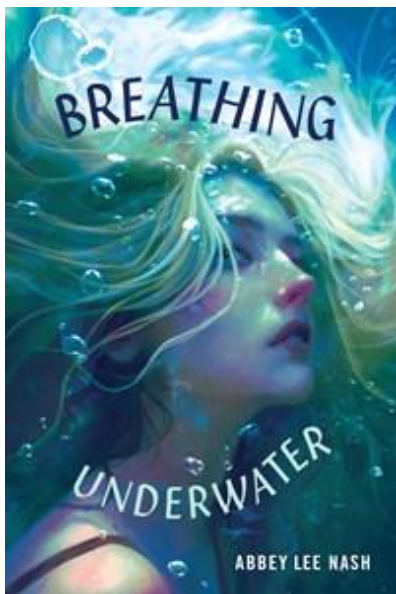
### Contributor Bio

Rhonda DeChambeau graduated with a degree in Literature from Harvard University

and later earned her Masters in Fine Arts from Vermont College of Fine Arts. In 2022, she was awarded the coveted Boston Public Library Writer-in-Residence fellowship. When she's not writing, she works in Human Resources for the Department of Veterans Affairs. Rhonda is a lifelong resident of Massachusetts and lives south of Boston with her family.

**Author Residence:** East Bridgewater, MA

**Author Hometown:** MA



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Young Adult Fiction / Sports &  
Recreation  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Breathing Underwater

Abbey Lee Nash

### Key Selling Points

- **EPILEPSY UNDEREXPLORED IN YA:** Although 1 in 26 people will develop epilepsy at some point in their lifetime, this disability is underrepresented in YA fiction. As Tess tries to pursue competitive swimming, she encounters bias and support and reaches self acceptance.
- **PERSONAL INSPIRATION:** Author Abbey Nash was inspired to write *BREATHING UNDERWATER* by her own epilepsy diagnosis. In researching the novel, she interviewed a group of young adults from the Eastern Pennsylvania Epilepsy Foundation. Their experiences helped inform the medical aspects of the novel and shape Tess' inner journey.
- **SUMMER ROMANCE:** Central to Tess' growth as a character is her romance with new kid Charlie. His outsider status is initially a haven for Tess, who feels ostracized from her peers after her seizure. His laidback confidence clashes ever so sweetly with her type A behavior.
- **SLIM BUT POWERFUL:** For YA fans fatigued by longer books, *Breathing Underwater* is perfect for readers looking for a meaningful story, told succinctly.

### Summary

**With one word, Tess's world could be completely undone: Epilepsy.**

Tess lives for swimming: the feel of the pool's rough edge on her toes, the snap of cold water on her skin, and the push of her limbs ever forward. In the water, she's truly alive.

Until tragedy strikes. And Tess is left navigating a summer of doctor visits, missed swim practices, a newly distant best friend, and a job stuck behind a counter—not sitting high in the lifeguard chair like every season before.

Instead, her spot goes to new guy Charlie. Although his messy hair and laid-back demeanor catch Tess's attention, this isn't really the time. She's got to focus on getting back in the pool—and on getting back to herself.

Lyrical and sensitively written, *Breathing Underwater* is a slice-of-life story with depth, exploring topics like epilepsy, inclusivity in student athletics, changing friendships, and the power of love and community. With warmth and wit, Abbey Lee Nash has crafted a moving portrait of a teen girl's journey to self-acceptance and life on her own terms.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

Abbey Nash holds an MA in English from Arcadia University. She lives with her husband and two daughters outside of Philadelphia, where she works as a senior marketing writer in the healthcare industry. A former writing teacher, she enjoys leading creative writing workshops, and has presented at SCBWI events, the National Council of Teachers of English, as well as schools and universities. When she's not writing, or talking about writing, you can find her reading, spending time with her family, or walking her highly opinionated Australian Shepherd. *Breathing Underwater* is her second novel. You can learn more about her work at [www.abbeynash.com](http://www.abbeynash.com).

**Author Residence:** Philadelphia, PA



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352 Pages  
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Young Adult Fiction / Social  
Themes

8.2 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.9 in T | 0.7  
lb Wt

## The Fall of Whit Rivera

Crystal Maldonado

### Key Selling Points

- **HOT RISING TALENT:** Crystal Maldonado has attracted a lot of attention with *FAT CHANCE*, *CHARLIE VEGA* and *NO FILTER AND OTHER LIES*! Her star is definitely on the rise, and her name is becoming known.
- **RAVE REVIEWS:** Both *FAT CHANCE*, *CHARLIE VEGA* and *NO FILTER AND OTHER LIES* have garnered long lists of accolades: *FAT CHANCE* was a New England Book Award Winner and Kirkus Best Book, while *NO FILTER* was a POPSUGAR and Seventeen Best YA, among many other honors.
- **SATISFYINGLY SEASONAL:** Readers looking for a deliciously autumnal story will fall in love with Crystal's cozy fall romance, which is guaranteed to leave them feeling warm and fuzzy (and dying for apple cider).
- **REPRESENTATION MATTERS:** Crystal's work connects strongly with readers who want to see themselves on the shelves. *WHIT* features a Latina heroine and an Afro-Latino leading man, and *Whit* exists at the intersections of class, Dis/ability, and immigration as a lower-middle-class Puerto Rican girl with PCOS.
- **FRENEMIES TO LOVERS:** *Whit* and *Zay* start off angry—but readers will be in love from page one! Combined with hilarious and satisfying forced proximity, this seasonal story delivers for readers looking for a diverse spin on their favorite tropes.

### Summary

**Could you plan the Fall Formal with your (hot) nemesis? *Whit Rivera* is about to find out.**

Frenemies *Whit* and *Zay* have been at odds for years (ever since he broke up with her in, like, the most embarrassing way imaginable), so when they're forced to organize the fall formal together, it's a literal disaster. Sparks fly as Whitney—type-A, passionate, a perfectionist, and a certified sweater-weather fanatic—buts heads with *Zay*, a dry, relaxed skater boy who takes everything in stride. But not all of those sparks are *bad*. . . .

Has their feud been a big misunderstanding all along?

Blisteringly funny and profoundly well-observed, *The Fall of Whit Rivera* is a snug and cozy autumn romcom that also tackles weightier topics like PCOS, chronic illness, sexuality, fatphobia, Latine identity, and class. Funny, honest, insightful, romantic, and poignant, it is classic Crystal Maldonado—and it will have her legion of fans absolutely swooning.

**A New York Public Library Best Book of the Year**

**A Massachusetts Book Award Winner**

**A Kirkus Reviews Best Young Adult Book of the Year**

**A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**

**"Meaningful. . . Multidimensional. . . An important addition to YA literature."**

—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

**"A celebration of love in all its forms—family, friends, romance, and**

**(especially!) self."**—Monica Gomez-Hira, author of *Once Upon a Quinceañera*

**"Satisfying and delightful... Maldonado shines!"**—Kelly Jensen, editor and author of *(Don't) Call Me Crazy*, *Body Talk*, and *Here We Are: Feminism for the Real World*

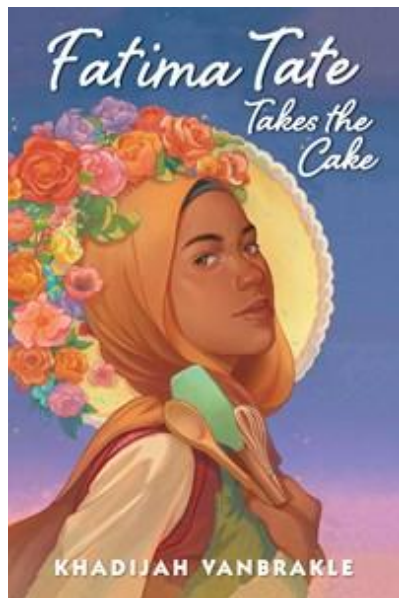
### Contributor Bio

**Crystal Maldonado** is a young adult author of inclusive romcoms for fat, brown girls.

She has written the award-winning novels *The Fall of Whit Rivera*; *Fat Chance*, *Charlie Vega*; and *No Filter and Other Lies*, as well as a middle grade novel called *Camp Sylvania: Moon Madness*, co-written with #1 New York Times bestselling author Julie Murphy. Her forthcoming YA romcom, *Get Real, Chloe Torres*, releases in spring 2025. Follow her everywhere @crystalwrote.

**Author Residence:** Amherst, MA





## Fatima Tate Takes the Cake

Khadijah VanBrakle

### Key Selling Points

- **A BLACK MUSLIM VOICE:** There is a real desire for more Muslim voices in YA among buyers, reviewers, and tastemakers, and those few women who are writing contemporary fiction are succeeding: Samira Ahmed, Taherah Mafi, Jasmine Warga, Aisha Saeed, etc.
- **AN EXCITING NEW AUTHOR:** Khadijah is a debut talent whose unique perspective and fresh, powerful storytelling presage a strong career. She was selected for the Highlights Foundation Muslim Storytellers Fellowship in 2021.
- **THEMATICALLY RICH:** FATIMA TATE explores the intersections of faith, gender, privilege, and power, and unflinchingly looks at the realities of abuse, prejudice, and sexism.

### Summary

**Fatima Tate wants to be a baker AND enjoy some innocent flirting with her hot friend Raheem—but her strict Muslim parents would never approve of either...**

Seventeen-year-old Fatima Tate, aspiring baker (100% against her conservative parents' wishes), leads a pretty normal life in Albuquerque: long drives with BFF Zaynab, weekly services at the mosque, big family parties, soup kitchen volunteering (the best way to perfect her flaky dough recipe!), stressing about college.

But everything changes when she meets a charming university student named Raheem. Knowing the 'rents would FREAK, Fatima keeps their burgeoning relationship a secret... and then, one day, her parents and his parents decide to arrange their marriage. Amazing! True serendipity!

Except it's not amazing. As soon as the ring is on Fatima's finger, Raheem's charm transforms into control and manipulation. Fatima knows she has to call the whole thing off, but Raheem doesn't like to lose. He threatens to reveal their premarital sexual history and destroy her and her family's reputation in their tight-knit Muslim community.

Fatima must find the inner strength to blaze her own trail by owning her body, her choices, and her future. Combining the frank authenticity of Elizabeth Acevedo and the complex social dynamics of Ibi Zoboi, FATIMA TATE TAKES THE CAKE is a powerful coming-of-age story that gives a much-needed voice to young Black Muslim women.

**"Fierce. . . Skillful. . . Searing."—*Publishers Weekly***

**"Much food for thought."—*Kirkus Reviews***

**A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**

### Contributor Bio

Khadijah VanBrakle is a proud New Mexican, mother of five, and Black Muslim woman. She is active in running her local SCBWI chapter and as an administrator at the Black Creators HQ, and she was also selected for the Highlights Foundation Muslim Storytellers Fellowship in 2021. She lives in Albuquerque with her family.

**Author Residence:** Albuquerque, NM

**Author Hometown:** Albuquerque, NM

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

## El otoño de Whit Rivera

Crystal Maldonado

### Key Selling Points

- **AUTHENTIC SPANISH-LANGUAGE FICTION:** This thoughtful translation will appeal to Spanish-speaking and bilingual teens of all kinds, including heritage speakers and dual language students.
- **A STAPLE OF HOLIDAY HOUSE EN ESPAÑOL:** Crystal's previous two novels were also translated into Spanish, and her translated editions are the backbone of the Holiday House en español program's fiction list.
- **HOT RISING TALENT:** Crystal Maldonado has attracted a lot of attention with *Fat Chance*, *Charlie Vega* and *No Filter and Other Lies*! Her star is definitely on the rise, and her name is becoming known.
- **RAVE REVIEWS:** Both *Fat Chance*, *Charlie Vega* and *No Filter and Other Lies* have garnered long lists of accolades: *Fat Chance* was a New England Book Award Winner and Kirkus Best Book, while *No Filter* was a POPSUGAR and Seventeen Best YA, among many other honors.
- **SATISFYINGLY SEASONAL:** Readers looking for a deliciously autumnal story will fall in love with Crystal's cozy fall romance, which is guaranteed to leave them feeling warm and fuzzy (and dying for apple cider).
- **REPRESENTATION MATTERS:** Crystal's work connects strongly with readers who want to see themselves on the shelves. This story features a Latina heroine and an Afro-Latino leading man, and Whit exists at the intersections of class, Dis/ability, and immigration as a lower-middle-class Puerto Rican girl with PCOS.
- **FRENEMIES TO LOVERS:** Whit and Zay start off angry—but readers will be in love from page one! Combined with hilarious and satisfying forced proximity, this seasonal story delivers for readers looking for a diverse spin on their favorite tropes.

### Summary

**Could you plan the Fall Formal with your (hot) nemesis? Whit Rivera is about to find out in this seasonal story by a rising star of Latine YA, now available in Spanish.**

Frenemies Whit and Zay have been at odds for years (ever since he broke up with her in, like, the most embarrassing way imaginable), so when they're forced to organize the fall formal together, it's a literal disaster. Sparks fly as Whitney—type-A, passionate, a perfectionist, and a certified sweater-weather fanatic—buts heads with Zay, a dry, relaxed skater boy who takes everything in stride. But not all of those sparks are bad. . . .

Has their feud been a big misunderstanding all along?

Blisteringly funny and profoundly well-observed, *The Fall of Whit Rivera* is a snug and cozy autumn romcom that also tackles weightier topics like PCOS, chronic illness, sexuality, fatphobia, Latine identity, and class. Funny, honest, insightful, romantic, and poignant, it is *classic* Crystal Maldonado—and it will have her legion of fans absolutely swooning.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

**"Meaningful. . . Multidimensional. . . An important addition to YA literature."  
—Kirkus Reviews, starred review**

**"A celebration of love in all its forms—family, friends, romance, and (especially!) self. Whit Rivera's wry, optimistic voice will linger happily in your mind long after you turn the last page."—Monica Gomez-Hira, author of**

## ***Once Upon a Quinceañera***

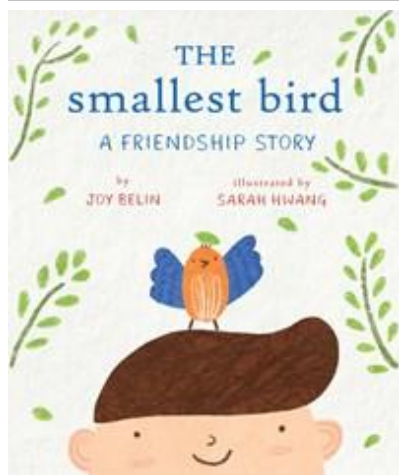
**"Satisfying and delightful... Maldonado shines!"—Kelly Jensen, editor and author of *(Don't) Call Me Crazy*, *Body Talk*, and *Here We Are: Feminism for the Real World***

### **Contributor Bio**

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**Crystal Maldonado** is a young adult author with a lot of feelings. Her debut novel, *Fat Chance, Charlie Vega*, is a New England Book Award winner, a Cosmopolitan Best New Book, and a POPSUGAR Best New YA Novel, while her sophomore novel, *No Filter and Other Lies*, was a POPSUGAR and *Seventeen* Best New YA. By day, Crystal works in higher ed marketing, and by night, is a writer who loves Beyoncé, shopping, spending too much time on her phone, and being extra. Her work has also been published in *Latina*, BuzzFeed, and the Hartford Courant. She lives in Western Massachusetts with her husband, daughter, and dog. Find her everywhere @crystalwrote or CrystalWrote.com.

**Author Residence:** Amherst, MA



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\$18.99  
Hardcover  
  
32 Pages  
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2  
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes  
9.5 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## The Smallest Bird

### A Friendship Story

Joy Belin, Sarah Hwang

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCLAIMED ILLUSTRATOR:** The *New York Times* lauded Sarah Hwang's debut picture book: "smart, subtle, yet laugh-out-loud wit that will delight both children and adults, plus abundant cartooning talent, mark this stellar debut from a young author to watch." *Toasty* also received a starred review from SLJ.
- **TALENTED DEBUT AUTHOR:** Debut talent Joy Belin invites readers to be a part of this warm friendship with tenderness and subtle humor.
- **ENCOURAGES IMAGINATIVE OUTDOOR PLAY:** For both nature-lovers and kids who'd rather stay cozy inside, *The Smallest Bird: A Friendship Story* invites young readers into a world of warmth and possibility where a new best friend could be right in their backyards!
- **FOR CREATIVE KIDS:** Sarah's cartoonish art style and Joy's gently playful text shows the world through a child's eyes and truly meets picture book readers where they are—finding the smallest, most special details in the seemingly ordinary landscapes of their day-to-day lives.

### Summary

**A whimsical picture book that explains how to make friends with a bird that is sure to delight young nature lovers.**

*If you want to make friends with the smallest bird . . .  
You'll need to look small yourself.  
Crouch down close to the ground like an itty-bitty frog.  
But don't jump because you might scare him.*

And once the bird can see you mean him no harm, do all the things that any good friend would do: Show him your secret tree house. Give him snacks. Sing him a song. And if you think he's ready, reach out to see if he'll let you hold him. You'll need to keep your hand open so he can fly away as all birds do—but don't worry, when the smallest bird makes a friend as good as you, he will always come back to visit.

From acclaimed illustrator Sarah Hwang and debut author Joy Belin comes a playful invitation into one small bird's not-so-small world. Charmingly rendered in Sarah's warm, playful art style, this picture book speaks to children's ability to see the ordinary in new and exciting ways. Hand this sweet story to backyard adventurers and imaginative young nature-lovers who love to spread their creative wings.

### Contributor Bio

**Joy Belin** was born in Des Moines, Iowa. She earned a B.A. in History and a M.A. in Education at Stanford University. She began her career as a teacher and later worked at the U.S. Department of Education. She lives in Maryland with her husband, daughter, and dog, Bandit.

**Author Residence:** Maryland

**Author Hometown:** Des Moines, IA

**Sarah Hwang** is a recent graduate of MICA. She lives in New Jersey.

**Illustrator Residence:** Palisades Park, NJ



Margaret Ferguson Books

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\$8.99

Trade Paperback

40 Pages

Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Imagination & Play

9 in H | 9.8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## The Brand-New, Never-Used, Perfect Crayons

Leanne Hatch

### Key Selling Points

- **TOO PERFECT TO USE:** We all know what it feels like to cherish our best creative supplies so much we're afraid to use them. It helps to see a book offer gentle encouragement to put art supplies to good use.
- **LEARNING FROM LITTLE SIBLINGS:** It's Violet's great relationship with her younger sister that finally gets her creating and collaborating with others.
- **SHARING IS FUN!:** It can be hard for young children to share with their siblings, especially the *good* stuff. Sometimes, learning to do so is exactly what they need to better enjoy themselves.
- **COLORFUL CRAYON ILLUSTRATION:** Throughout the book, Violet imagines all the things she could be drawing in dazzling crayon sketches, of animals, mythical creatures, and everything in between.
- **ACCLAIMED AUTHOR-ILLUSTRATOR:** Leanne Hatch is the author and illustrator of *Unraveled*, a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection. She has also earned recognition for her illustration portfolios, which won a SCBWI Portfolio Showcase Award Grand Prize and two Honors.

### Summary

**Nothing is better than a brand new box of crayons. Violet loves hers so much that she refuses to share them--or even to use them-- but maybe her little sister is on to something . . .**

Violet is ecstatic when she earns her very own super big box of eighty-four crayons all matching in length, perfectly pointed, each in their smooth, uniform wrapper. There's even one with her name on it. She can't stop imagining all the wonderful things she can draw with them.

But when it comes time to get busy, she can't seem to do it—she doesn't want to ruin all that perfection. It isn't until her little sister takes matters into her own hands that Violet is able to let go and have fun drawing all the things she dreamed up when she first got her box of brand-new, never-used, perfect crayons.

With *The Brand-New, Never-Used, Perfect Crayons*, Leanne Hatch taps into the joy of sharing, creating, and letting go of perfectionism. Adorable art set alongside textured crayon sketches reminiscent of classics like *Harold and the Purple Crayon* makes this a book perfectly suited for the shelves of young creatives everywhere.

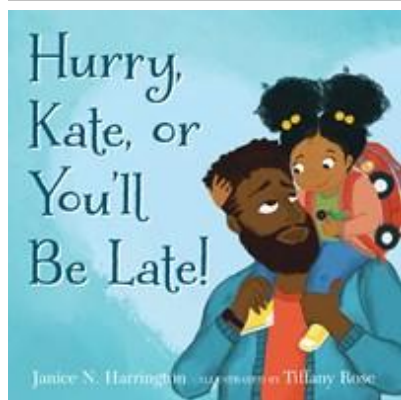
### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

**Leanne Hatch** is the author and illustrator of *Unraveled*, a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection, and the forthcoming *Rosie and the Pre-Loved Dress*. Her illustration portfolios have won an SCBWI Portfolio Showcase Award Grand Prize and two Honors. She was also the winner of the SCBWI Narrative Art Award and 1st Place Portfolio Award at the SCBWI Western Washington Conference. Leanne lives in Kirkland, Washington. Visit her at [leannehatch.com](http://leannehatch.com) and on Instagram.

**Author Residence:** Kirkland, Washington





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Juvenile Fiction / Family  
9 in H | 9 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Hurry, Kate, or You'll Be Late!

Janice N. Harrington, Tiffany Rose

### Key Selling Points

- **PRE-SCHOOL PRIMER:** *Hurry Kate* captures all of the excitement of a young child's trip to pre-school and all the glorious distractions along the way.
- **POSITIVE ROLE-MODELS:** Kate's father is patient, compassionate, and attentive, no matter how hard it is to keep his daughter focused.
- **PERFECT FOR FATHER'S DAY:** This book celebrates the bond between a loving father and daughter.
- **GREAT FOR TEACHING KIDS TO NAME OBJECTS:** Kate love vehicles and points out everything that fascinates her on the way to pre-school, from firetrucks, to buses, to construction equipment. Children first learning to identify vehicles will recognize a kindred spirit in Kate's delightful obsession.

### Summary

**A young girl stops to call out all the sights and sounds on her morning trip to pre-school, but that's not what makes her late—it is her dad's goodbye hug.**

Kate was late for preschool, but not for the reasons you might expect. It wasn't because her daddy brushed her hair into poofs, or because they slowed to say hello to neighbors on the way to the bus stop. It wasn't even because she had to wave to all the trucks, cars, and street cleaners on the road. No, Kate was late because just after they arrived at school, her daddy swooped in to give her a great big goodbye hug that lasted a very long time.

Janice N. Harrington is the Ezra Jack Keats Award winning author of *Going North*. With *Hurry Kate or You'll be Late*, she has teamed up with illustrator Tiffany Rose to create a delightful picture book about a vehicle obsessed girl and her very patient father.

### Contributor Bio

**Janice N. Harrington** is an award-winning poet and children's book author. Her children's books include *Buzzing with Questions: The Inquisitive Mind of Charles Henry Turner*, an NSTA/CBC Best STEM Book, *Going North*, and *The Chicken-Chasing Queen of Lamar County*, an ALA Notable Book and an Irma S. and James H. Black Award Honor Book. She teaches creative writing and the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Visit her at [janiceharrington.com](http://janiceharrington.com).

**Author Residence:** Chicago, IL

**Tiffany Rose** is the author and illustrator of *M Is for Melanin: A Celebration of the Black Child*, which received starred reviews in *Kirkus Reviews* and *School Library Journal*, and *Dear Reader: A Love Letter to Libraries*, which also received a starred review in *Kirkus Reviews*. She is a full-time teacher, part time author-illustrator, and world traveler. She is currently living in Shanghai, China. Visit her at [asouthpawdraws.com](http://asouthpawdraws.com).

**Illustrator Residence:**Shanghai, China



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Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes  
10.5 in H | 8.5 in W | 0.1 in T |  
0.4 lb Wt

## The Sharing Book

Dianne White, Simone Shin

### Key Selling Points

- **EXPERIENCES WORTH SHARING:** Whether readers are frolicking in the great outdoors or snuggling up to read, this is a book that celebrates the value of sharing an experience with the people you love.
- **FUN IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS:** Everything from tasty picnics to canoe rides and campfire stories is wrapped up in a delightful bundle in *The Sharing Book*, perfect for families planning a summer getaway.
- **AWARD WINNING AUTHOR-ILLUSTRATOR DUO:** Between the two of them, Dianne White and Simone Shin have created multiple award-winning books for children, including Dianne's *Blue on Blue*, which received multiple starred reviews and was included on Boston Globe's Best picture books of 2014 list. Simone Shin illustrated *The International Day of the Girl* by Jessica Dee Humphreys and Rona Ambrose, winner of a Yellow Cedar Award.

### Summary

**A simple story about the little acts of sharing and kindness that make a day special.**

*A hand is perfect for holding.  
A smile is just right for hello.  
A pinkie is waiting to promise and  
FRIENDS, best friends, are for sharing.*

Come join two best friends on a camping trip as they share the wonderful things they do outdoors with family and friends: meals, laughter, adventures, stories, campfire songs. All the things that make an outdoor experience exciting and memorable. But the most important thing—love—more than anything else, is *always* for sharing.

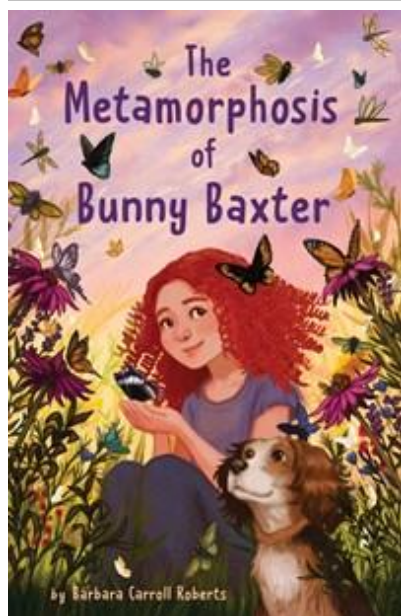
### Contributor Bio

**Dianne White** is the award-winning author of numerous picture books, including *Dark on Light*, *Green on Green*, *Winter Lullaby*, and *Look and Listen: Whose in the Meadow, Garden, Brook*. She loves sharing tasty meals with friends, favorite books and poetry with students, and new adventures with her husband. Dianne lives and writes from her home in sunny Arizona where wonder is always waiting to happen. Visit her at [diannewrites.com](http://diannewrites.com).

**Author Residence:** Arizona

**Simone Shin** has illustrated numerous books for children, including the award-winning *The International Day of the Girl* by Jessica Dee Humphreys and Rona Ambrose, winner of a Yellow Cedar Award. Her work can also be seen in magazines and newspapers. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**Illustrator Residence:** San Francisco, CA



Margaret Ferguson Books  
9780823458561  
Pub Date: 7/22/2025  
On Sale Date: 7/22/2025  
\$18.99  
Hardcover  
  
240 Pages  
Ages 10 to 14, Grades 5 to 9  
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## The Metamorphosis of Bunny Baxter

Barbara Carroll Roberts

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Even early in her career, Barbara Roberts' work has made three state lists, and her books have been named a JLG Gold Standard Selection, a CCBC Best Book of the Year, an Indies Introduce Selection, and a Barnes & Noble Best New Book for Young Readers. Clearly a burgeoning talent, Barbara Roberts has the potential to bring even more accolades to our list.
- **FOSTERS LOVE OF NATURE:** When Bunny Baxter plants a pollinator garden, she has to do more than just get her hands dirty—there's research, coordinating with the school and adults, and gathering volunteers. Bunny's interest in STEM topics like horticulture and entomology will not only stoke young readers' interest in the natural world, but also demonstrate responsibility and the power of youth activism.
- **ANXIETY REPRESENTATION:** Middle school is hard, but anxiety makes it harder. Bunny's difficulties in changing schools, making friends, and speaking up in class capture timeless coming-of-age themes while also offering much-needed representation.
- **EMOTIONAL EXPLORATION OF ADOPTION:** When a classmate makes a cruel comment about the fact that Bunny is adopted, she realizes she's never confronted what it means—or what she fears it means—that she was put up for adoption. Bunny's anxieties about not looking like her family and her journey to asserting that her parents are her "real parents" are sure to stick with readers in similar circumstances.

### Summary

**Bunny Baxter thinks nothing could be worse than starting seventh grade at a school where she knows no one. But after her first day, she realizes things can actually get much worse.**

If Bunny Baxter were an insect, she'd have so many ways to slip through seventh grade unnoticed. But she's tall instead of tiny, has flaming red Medusa hair instead of camouflage, and she suffers from social anxiety, which makes it hard to be part of a swarm. Worst of all, she's been redistricted to a new middle school away from her best friend who she could always hide behind when her anxiety got the best of her.

The first day at E.D. Britt Middle School does not go well. Bunny trips on the steps, falls into the cutest boy in the school, and causes a kid domino pile-up. At lunch, she unintentionally causes an uproar in the cafeteria, which lands her and another girl in the principal's office. Bunny decides there is only one option: to get expelled so she can transfer to the school her best friend attends.

She soon discovers that it isn't that hard to get in trouble—don't turn in your homework, walk around the track instead of run in P.E., pretend you deliberately hit someone with a badminton birdie. What isn't so easy for Bunny is realizing she now has a reputation as a troublemaker. And even more confusing, when it looks like her plan to get expelled might work, she's no longer sure what to do.

*The Metamorphosis of Bunny Baxter* is a heartfelt coming of age story about an insect-loving girl who is learning to grow into herself—quirks and all.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

**Barbara Carroll Roberts's** debut middle-grade novel, *Nikki on the Line*, was a finalist for two state children's book awards and made numerous best-of-the-year lists. Her nonfiction picture book, *A Rose Named Peace*, illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline, was a

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard selection, a Texas Topaz Award winner, and received a starred review from School Library Journal. She grew up in northern California and holds an MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Hamline University. She has two grown children and now lives in Virginia with her husband, two cats, and one very goofy springer spaniel.

**Author Residence:** Virginia

**Author Hometown:** California



Margaret Ferguson Books  
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\$10.99  
Trade Paperback

288 Pages  
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7  
Juvenile Fiction / Action & Adventure  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## Nothing Else But Miracles

Kate Albus

### Key Selling Points

- **ESTABLISHED FAN BASE:** Kate Albus is already a beloved author because of the success of *A Place to Hang the Moon*.
- **UNIQUE SETTING:** Who wouldn't want to spend the summer living in an old hotel?
- **PERIOD PIECE:** Kate has woven many details specific to New York City in the 1940s into her novel.
- **SIBLING SOLIDARITY:** This is a story featuring three children who outwit and triumph over a malicious adult.
- **BASED ON THE AUTHOR'S FAMILY HISTORY:** Many of the details in this book came from Kate Albus's own family history in New York. Everything from her grandmother's stories of Coney Island and the laundromat to trips to the Fulton Fish Market. The hotel itself is preserved and maintained by the Seaport Museum.

### Summary

**From the author of *A Place to Hang the Moon* comes a hopeful World War II story about three scrappy siblings on the Lower East Side of Manhattan.**

When 12-year-old Dory Byrne's pop left New York City's Lower East Side to fight Hitler, he promised her and her brothers that they'd be safe. Like he always said, "the neighborhood will give you what you need."

There's the lady from the bakery, who saves them leftover crullers. The kind landlord who checks in on them. And every Thursday night, the Byrnes enjoy a free bowl of seafood stew at Mr. Caputo's restaurant. . . which is where Dory learns about the abandoned hand-pulled elevator that is the only way to get to Caputo's upper floors.

But when a new landlord threatens their home in the community that's raised them and kept them safe, the secret elevator—and the abandoned hotel it leads to—provides just the solution they need.

Based on a very real place in old New York and steeped in the history of World War II, *Nothing Else but Miracles* is a warm and inviting story of resilience, the tight-knit community of the Lower East Side, and the miracles that await in unexpected places.

Kate Albus is the award-winning author of *A Place to Hang the Moon*, a JLG Gold Standard Selection, An Indie Pick, An ALSC Notable Children's Book, A CCBC Choice book, and an SCBWI Crystal Kite Award Winner. *Nothing Else But Miracles* is rich with details from her grandparents' stories of Coney Island and the Fulton Fish Market.

**A New York Public Library Best Book of the Year**  
**A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**

### Contributor Bio

**Kate Albus** is the award-winning author of *A Place to Hang the Moon*, a JLG Gold Standard Selection, Indie Pick, and recipient of three starred reviews. She grew up in New York and now lives with her family in rural Maryland, where an already-dangerous pile of reading material on her nightstand grows daily. Visit her at [katealbus.com](http://katealbus.com).

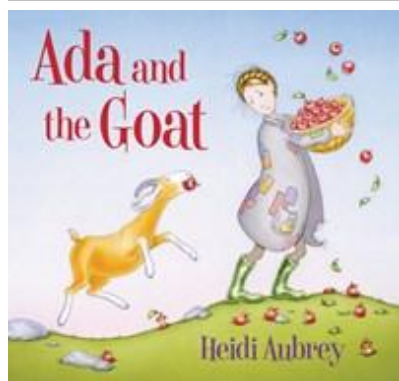
**Author Residence:** Middletown, Maryland

trip leader. Anne combines her love of nature and art and brings her study of scientific illustration to bear on her work. The illustrator of more than twenty books, some authored as well as illustrated, Anne is the winner of a Geisel Honor for her book *Where's Baby?* She now lives in Vermont.

**Illustrator Residence:**Shaftsbury, VT

**Illustrator Hometown:**Lake Worth Beach, FL





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\$18.99  
Hardcover

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

## Ada and the Goat

Heidi Aubrey

### Key Selling Points

- **SWEET ANIMAL STORY:** Heidi Aubrey's adorable goat illustrations and tear-jerking emotional beats will easily win over animal lovers, just as the titular goat wins over the curmudgeonly human protagonist.
- **FOR GOAT LOVERS:** Goats are a perennial favorite in the cute-and-funny animal sphere, and those who love them love them passionately.
- **STORY-DRIVEN:** Ada and the Goat is a narrative-forward book where the fun is in seeing what happens next and how things will turn out, great for any customer feeling oversaturated in "message-y" or lesson-forward books.
- **DEBUT AUTHOR:** The book will be Heidi Aubrey's first publication, as either an author or an illustrator.
- **OFF-THE-GRID LIFE:** Many readers will relate to Ada's desire to live in an isolated fixer-upper cottage, and will enjoy living vicariously through her (even as the goat adorably throws a wrench in things).

### Summary

**Ada doesn't need the goat. She doesn't want the goat. So why isn't she happy when it leaves?**

When Ada leaves town and moves into a fixer-upper cottage on a hill, she can't wait to settle into a life of peace and quiet. She'll wear a soft gray coat and grow perfect red apples, and everything will be just so.

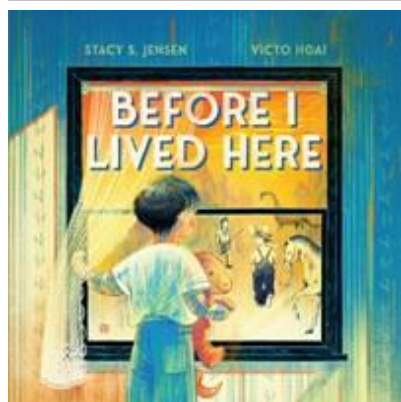
Yet Ada's lovely plans are soon dashed by a troublesome goat that hangs around long after she frees it from a tangle with a fence. Its antics undo her perfect new life piece by piece, until Ada snaps and sends the goat firmly on its way. Never again will it chase after her apples... or sleep on her porch... or nibble on her soft, gray coat. And suddenly, Ada isn't so glad. What if it's stuck in a fence again?

A triumphant reunion, complete with baby goats, perfectly concludes this adorable and timeless tale of reluctant animal love. Heidi Aubrey's prancing, clattering goat illustrations crackle with the spark that goat lovers know no other creature quite shares. As for Ada and her cottage, parents reading aloud may well see something familiar in having a tidy, calm home upturned by a mischievous small creature—and not wanting to have it any other way.

### Contributor Bio

**Heidi Aubrey** lives among the trees just outside Portland, Oregon, homesteading on six acres with her husband and a Pembroke Welsh corgi named Leo. She holds an illustration degree from Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles, and studied classical draftsmanship and sculpture at Gage Academy of Art in Seattle. When she's not dreaming up stories, she's exploring the mountain foothills or working on woodland restoration projects.

**Author Residence:** Near Portland, OR



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\$18.99  
Hardcover

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

## Before I Lived Here

Stacy S. Jensen, Victo Ngai

### Key Selling Points

- **BACKYARD HISTORY:** This book takes place in a familiar-feeling neighborhood that many readers will find similar to their own, which teaches the powerful lesson that history happens everywhere and involves everyday people.
- **INNOVATIVE BACKWARDS TIMELINE:** Unlike other history books, this one starts with the present day and leaps backward, further into the past with each page. This approach leads readers smoothly from the most familiar lifestyles to the least recognizable, connecting past and present.
- **FOR YOUNG CONSTRUCTION FANS:** For the child who loves bulldozers, trucks, and big piles of dirt, they'll love seeing the process of planning and building a neighborhood.
- **DINOSAURS, TOO:** Kids who love dinosaurs will be thrilled when the story reaches prehistory, and two full spreads show all their favorites. Much time can be spent on these pages, pointing out and identifying each dinosaur.
- **DIFFICULT TOPIC MADE APPROACHABLE:** One of the stages of this neighborhood's creation was the forced eviction of its Native people, the Utes. The book tackles the tragedy with matter-of-fact diligence, and has been vetted by experts for accuracy and sensitivity.

### Summary

**Journey backward in time through all the layers of history that led up to your neighborhood's existence.**

The building you live in has probably been around longer than you, so you may think it's been there forever. But no matter where you live, a whole lot happened before your home was built.

In *Before I Lived Here*, a boy peels away each layer of the history of the land his house sits on. Follow along from the construction of the neighborhood back to the planning of it; from the ranchers and log cabins that predated it, back to the region's Indigenous people and their eviction from the land . . . all the way back to the time of the dinosaurs.

*Before I Lived Here* reminds us that history isn't something that happens far away, to other people—it's in our own backyards. Debut author Stacy S. Jensen makes the learning readily digestible. There's something here for every reader—from the irresistible depiction of construction sites for vehicle fans, to the somber facts of indigenous displacement recounted without flinching, making for a great family conversation starter on many different levels.

**Story Locale:**Colorado

### Contributor Bio

**Stacy S. Jensen** is a former newspaper journalist always searching for unique stories for children, which has led her to historical sites, state and national parks, and everyday spots like the grocery store. When not writing, she enjoys time with family, reading, and paper quilling. She also volunteers to support literacy, youth, and children's programs. Previously a Colorado resident, she now lives in Marietta, Georgia at the base of a mountain with her husband, son, and two Vizslas, who walk their humans daily. Stacy can be found online at [stacysjensen.com](http://stacysjensen.com).

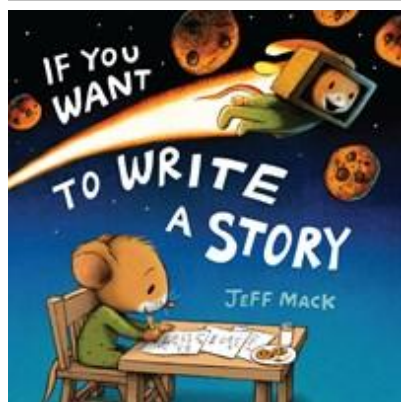
**Author Residence:** Georgia

**Victo Ngai** is a Forbes 30 Under honoree and a Society of Illustrators New York Gold Medalist. Her illustrations have been featured in the *New York Times* and the *New*

*Yorker*, among others; she also creates storyboards and art for NBC, Dreamworks, and other animation studios. Originally from Hong Kong, she now lives in Los Angeles.

**Illustrator Residence:**Los Angeles, California

**Illustrator Hometown:**Hong Kong



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Hardcover

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Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Fiction / Books &  
Libraries  
10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## If You Want to Write a Story

Jeff Mack

### Key Selling Points

- **EVERGREEN CURRICULUM TOPIC:** Creative writing is a key skill at every stage of education. Teachers will find a great boon in this highly appealing conversation starter on the subject.
- **KIDS LOVE TO CREATE:** Jeff Mack himself was an elementary-aged author and cartoonist, and he well understands how many kids feel the call of storytelling. But a blank page can still be daunting. *How to Write a Story* is the perfect hand up for creative kids who aren't sure how to begin.
- **AN ENCOURAGING GIFT:** Relatives of kids with any sort of creative spark can feel good about gifting this book as a way to nurture and support that budding talent.
- **DUAL APPEAL:** The "example" story used to demonstrate the storytelling process is itself an exciting and endearing narrative, featuring space travel and perilous alien adventures; it stands on its own as a good read.
- **BRIGHT, DYNAMIC ART:** Jeff Mack's illustrations feature colorful, cuddly animals and a sense of movement and momentum that serves the adventure story perfectly and keep the energy high.

### Summary

**Crafting a great story can be as fun as reading one with this action-packed introduction to fiction writing as your child's guide!**

Nothing is quite as exciting and frustrating as chasing a story idea out of your head and onto the page. Award-winning author and illustrator Jeff Mack should know— he's been telling stories since the second grade. With *How to Write a Story*, he brings the writing process to life for the next generation of yarn spinners.

"Ideas are hiding anywhere," our narrator notes as we open on a pensive mouse at his writing desk. This proves true a moment later, when a stuffed bunny leaps from a shelf and out of the house, straight to a cardboard box spaceship. "Writing a story is like traveling through space," we continue as mouse and bunny do just that: "It may take you a long time. You may not always know where you're going." Once landed on an alien planet, the adventure continues to the bottom of the sea, the stomach of a big fish, and the lair of a killer robot. Each thrilling beat illustrates a tool in the fiction writer's kit.

Whether used in the classroom or gifted to the talented youngster in your life, *How to Write a Story* is timeless, multifaceted, and empowering.

### Contributor Bio

**Jeff Mack** is the creator of more than forty picture books, chapter books, and early readers, including *Hush Little Polar Bear*, *Duck in the Fridge*, *Just a Story*, and *Scaredy Cats*. He has also illustrated award-winning books such as Eve Bunting's *Hurry! Hurry!* and James Howe's *Bunnicula and Friends*. Originally from Syracuse, NY, he started writing and illustrating his own comic books in the second grade, and he's been doing it ever since. He lives in Western Massachusetts; visit him at [www.jeffmack.com](http://www.jeffmack.com).

**Author Residence:** Northampton, MA

**Author Hometown:** Syracuse, NY



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\$18.99  
Hardcover

48 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Fiction / Science & Nature

11 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Island Storm

Brian Floca, Sydney Smith

### Key Selling Points

- **CALDECOTT MEDALIST AUTHOR:** *Island Storm* is masterfully penned by Brian Floca, winner of the Caldecott Medal for *Locomotive*.
- **AWARD-WINNING ILLUSTRATOR:** Sydney Smith is a recipient of the extremely prestigious Hans Christian Andersen award for career-wide achievement, as well as the Greenaway Medal and Boston Globe-Horn Book Award. The illustrator of Jordan Scott's *I Talk Like a River* and creator of *Small in the City* and *Do You Remember?*, Smith has a well-earned and growing fanbase.
- **TEACHING POTENTIAL:** Teachers and librarians can use *Island Storm* for lessons on descriptive writing and literary devices, including onomatopoeia and alliteration.
- **READ-ALOUD JOY:** This wonderful read aloud choice will excite emerging readers through its use of playfully varying font sizes, onomatopoeia, and visually stunning illustrations.
- **A STUNNING ODE TO THUNDERSTORMS:** Through Brian Floca's multi-sensory narrative and Sydney Smith's textured crashing waves and rain, readers will truly and fully experience an island storm.

### Summary

**In Caldecott Medalist Brian Floca and acclaimed illustrator Sydney Smith's thrilling picture book, young readers will experience the sheer power of a violent thunderstorm and the calm of its aftermath.**

Can you tell when a storm is coming? Can you feel the wind coming and growing? Do you hear the branches bouncing together, hear the whispers of the wind through the leaves?

Join in the journey as two siblings bear witness to the steady start, thrilling apex, and gentle end of this island storm. They'll shelter soon, but first they want to feel it all.

Sydney Smith is the winner of the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the highest international distinction given to authors and illustrators of children's books, and his illustrations are fantastically textured and visually spectacular. Paired with Brian Floca's eloquent, rhythmic text, *Island Storm* is a multi-sensory experience that will amaze and delight readers. Children who fear thunder can take comfort in seeing it captured in the pages, while those who relish watching the sky crack open can enjoy battling this storm from the comfort of their homes.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

**Brian Floca** is the author and illustrator of the Caldecott Medal winning and New York Times bestselling book *Locomotive*, as well as *Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11* and *Lightship*, both of which garnered Sibert Honors. He is also the illustrator of the popular Poppy series, by Avi, and Richard Jackson's *With Dad*. Visit him at [BrianFloca.com](http://BrianFloca.com). Born and raised in Temple, Texas, he now lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.

**Author Residence:** Brooklyn, NY

**Author Hometown:** Temple, TX

**Sydney Smith** is the author and illustrator of *Do You Remember?* and of *Small in the City*, which received eight starred reviews and a silver medal from the Society of Illustrators. He is the illustrator of *My Baba's Garden* and the Schneider Book Award

winner *I Talk Like a River*, both written by Jordan Scott. He is a recipient of the prestigious Hans Christian Andersen Award, two Governor General's Awards for Illustrated Children's Books, and four *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year citations, among other accolades. He lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia with his wife and two sons.

**Illustrator Residence:**Halifax, Nova Scotia

**Illustrator Hometown:**Halifax, Nova Scotia





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Hardcover

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Juvenile Nonfiction / Technology  
10 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## It's Corn Picking Time!

Jill Esbaum, Melissa Crowton

### Key Selling Points

- **FOR MACHINERY-LOVING KIDS:** Farm equipment is engrossing to many children, and this book delivers bigtime with a focus throughout on the workings of combines, tractors, and other machinery.
- **FOR FARM FAMILIES:** According to the Farm Bureau, there are about 2 million farms in the USA, and 98% are family-owned (as is the one in this book); many more families live and work adjacent to farms, ensuring a large base of interest for the topic.
- **RHYMING READ-ALoud:** Jill Esbaum's text is made up of masterful couplets that give rhyming books a good name, ensuring a smooth rhythm with infectious energy for both readers and listeners.
- **WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE:** The story features a female farmer, representing and celebrating the one third of American farmers who are women.
- **WRITTEN BY A FARM FAMILY MEMBER:** Jill Esbaum writes from experience, as she lives on a farm herself and watches her husband harvest corn year after year.
- **BACKMATTER INCLUDED:** the back of the book features a Q&A with plenty of additional information about the corn farming process and industry.

### Summary

**Hop in the tractor and ride along with a corn farmer in this rhyming read-aloud full of things that clack, whoosh, and roll!**

It's corn-picking time, and the farmer has all her tools ready! The cornhead gobbles the stalks. The spreader spits out chaff. The grain wagon fills with corn!

*This is the farmer, whose happy heart leaps  
at the sight of those first golden, glorious heaps!*

Corn-picking time is a favorite season on author Jill Esbaum's family farm, and the joy is sure to be shared by young lovers of tractors, trucks, and all manner of machines. Rhyming text pairs with Melissa Crowton's colorful illustrations for a high-energy read kids will ask for again and again. Check out the copious information found at the end of the book to discover more about life on a farm.

### Contributor Bio

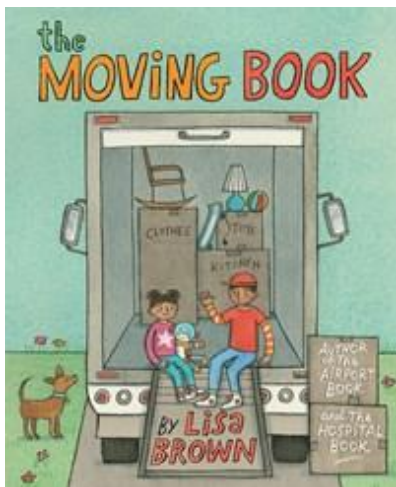
**Jill Esbaum** is the author of numerous picture books, including *If a T. Rex Crashes Your Birthday Party*, *Teeny Tiny Toady*, *Elwood Bigfoot: Wanted: Birdie Friends*, *Where'd My Jo Go?*, and the Thunder and Cluck series. Her books have been nominated for many state awards, named to the IRA's Notable Children's Book list and International Youth Library's White Ravens List, and featured as a New York Times Editor's Choice (*I Hatched!*). Jill lives with her husband on their farm in Iowa, which has been in the family for over one hundred years.

**Author Residence:** Iowa

**Melissa Crowton** has illustrated various books for toddlers and young children, including the picture books *Mousie*, *I Will Read to You* by Rachael Cole and *Your First Day of Circus School* by Tara Lazar. Her work has been recognized by the Society of Illustrators, Creative Quarterly, and American Illustration. She is also a winner of the portfolio showcase at SCBWI's Winter NYC conference. Both of Melissa's grandfathers were farmers. She lives in Utah.

**Illustrator Residence:** Utah

**Illustrator Hometown:**Utah



Neal Porter Books

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\$18.99

Hardcover

40 Pages

Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes

11 in H | 9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## The Moving Book

Lisa Brown

### Key Selling Points

- **PREPARING YOUNG CHILDREN FOR A MOVE:** This book is the perfect tool to prepare children for a move, an evergreen need that may be on the rise with more families downsizing due to economic hardships.
- **FOR FAMILIES WHO MOVE FREQUENTLY:** Military families and others who relocate often can make this book a reassuring tradition as they pack up for their next adventure.
- **POSITIVE PORTRAYAL OF ELDER CARE:** The family in the story is moving in with grandpa, with highlights on the pros of that arrangement. With 59.7 million people living in multigenerational homes in 2021 according to a Pew Research report, this book will affirm a large and growing group of people.
- **FOLLOW-UP TO ACCLAIMED PICTURE BOOKS:** Features the family and style of the author's *The Airport Book*, which received four starred reviews and was a Bulletin Blue Ribbons book, and *The Hospital Book*, which received three starred reviews.
- **CONVERSATION STARTER ABOUT CHANGE:** With its focus on the possibilities that changes bring, librarians and teachers will see the value of adding this book to their collection.

### Summary

**Lisa Brown, creator of the hugely popular *The Airport Book* and *The Hospital Book*, breaks down the big prospect of moving to a new home in this engaging picture book primer.**

Moving can be sad and scary—but it doesn't have to be. The kids in this book have done it many times before, as the older brother reminds his sister. They reflect on favorite memories from each of their past homes, and the boy talks her (and the reader) through all the steps to expect, from taping up boxes to riding in the car behind the moving truck.

Starring the same multiracial family from *The Airport Book* and *The Hospital Book*, and featuring plenty of "easter eggs" that will delight young readers, the book chronicles three distinct moves—from a small, overcrowded apartment in a rickety house to a proper urban apartment building to a house where there's room for grandpa.

With clear, concise text and detail-rich illustrations, *The Moving Book* is the perfect resource for any family preparing for a move and managing anxiety about the process. Fans of Lisa Brown's critically acclaimed past titles will instantly recognize their favorite tour guides to sort-of-scary new things.

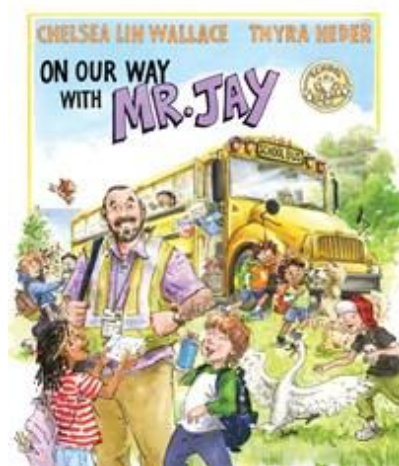
### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

**Lisa Brown** is a New York Times bestselling illustrator, author and cartoonist. Her work includes *The Airport Book*, *The Hospital Book*, and *How to Be*. Her first graphic novel, *The Phantom Twin*, received starred reviews from the School Library Journal and Booklist. For adults, *Long Story Short* is a collection of comic strips about classic novels. She lives in San Francisco and teaches in the illustration department of the California College of the Arts.

**Author Residence:** San Francisco, CA

**Author Hometown:** Hartford, CT



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\$18.99  
Hardcover

48 Pages  
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3  
Juvenile Fiction / School & Education

11 in H | 9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## On Our Way with Mr. Jay

Chelsea Lin Wallace, Thyra Heder

### Key Selling Points

- **GREAT FOR ALL STUDENTS:** This book is perfect for kids new to elementary school, kids entering a new school, or any kid gearing up for the new school year. Whether they're feeling excitement, anxiety, or some of both, this energetic and reassuring story will have them giggling and cheering for all the zany things that happen on one normal bus ride, before school even starts.
- **FOR ALL VEHICLE LOVERS:** With countless pictures of buses alongside other vehicles, animals, and environments, this book is a must-have addition to the vehicle-loving kid's shelf. Any kid who's ever pointed in glee at a car will love this vehicle-centered adventure to school, complete with one of the most innovative AND safest drivers you'll ever meet.
- **CIRCLE TIME READ:** With intuitive, hilarious rhyme and a fast, propulsive pace, this book is perfect for classroom read-alouds, with expertly executed rhyming text and a focus on undersung heroes in the school community.
- **MALE SCHOOL PRESENCE:** This book celebrates a male member of the education system. Males make up a vast minority of the workforce in elementary schools—about 25%—and so their presence in books about schools is even less visible. Depicting one fictionally helps normalize their presence and encourage more young people to become educators.
- **UNDERSUNG SCHOOL HEROES:** The author's mission with this series is to highlight an important school figure who is crucial to students' success but often overlooked by adults. School bus drivers are the first and last employees kids see each day, and their work is vital for safety and equal access.
- **MORE SCHOOL HEROES TO COME:** Readers who love Mr. Jay can look forward to future titles in the School Heroes series, set at the same school, celebrating other school helpers. Next up is *Emergencies with Ms. Bernice*, featuring the school custodian.

### Summary

**Cheer for the district's most intrepid school bus driver as he races to get everybody to school before the bell rings!**

A school is an entire community of its own, but many of its members never get celebrated. This book, the hero is the school bus driver! The first staff member kids see in the morning and the last they say goodbye to, the bus driver has a crucial part to play—and Mr. Jay is up to the challenge.

With the clock ticking all the while, Mr. Jay picks up kids from all over town—out in the country, up a hill, in the busy city, always piloting his bus with jaunty rhymes and a can-do attitude. Along the route, he's called upon to settle stomachs, clean up pony poo, and fix a diorama. He avoids a stampede, settles down an intruding dog, and even fights off hostile swans! But will he get the kids to school on time?

Chelsea Lin Wallace and Thyra Heder deliver a rollicking, high-energy ride with *On Our Way with Mr. Jay*, the first in a series of books about school heroes. Whether eager for the start of school, nervous about new experiences, or fond of their own beloved driver, kids will be giggling and cheering their way through this irrepressible, fun-filled read-aloud.

### Contributor Bio

**Chelsea Lin Wallace** is a poet, a school theater director, and an award-winning children's author with an impressive lineup of books including *Ode to a Bad Day*, *The Boo-Boos of Bluebell Elementary*, and *Dare to be Daring*. When she's not penning stories, she's passionately involved in guiding kids through theater productions, coaching volleyball, and being a source of support through all their ups and downs. She

lives in Los Angeles with her husband, daughter, and dog. You can also visit her at [www.chelsealinwallace.com](http://www.chelsealinwallace.com).

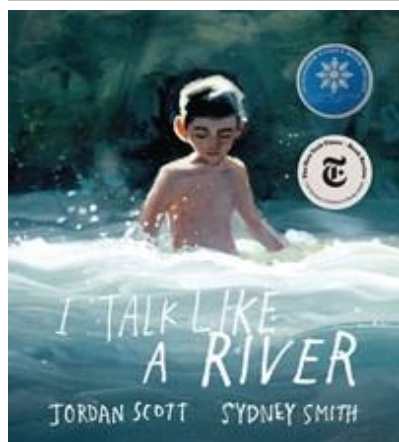
**Author Residence:** Los Angeles, CA

**Author Hometown:** Ann Arbor, MI

**Thyra Heder** is an author and illustrator of picture books, a storyboard and scenic artist for movies and TV, fashion and interior design, and an adjunct professor at Drexel University Westphal College of Media Arts & Design and School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University. Her picture books include *Fraidyzoo*, *The Bear Report*, *Alfie*, *How Do You Dance?* and *Sal Boat*, and have received critical acclaim and international translation. Born and raised in Cambridge, Massachusetts, she now lives in Brooklyn, New York.

**Illustrator Residence:** Brooklyn, NY

**Illustrator Hometown:** Cambridge, MA



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Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes  
10 in H | 9 in W | 0.2 in T | 0.5 lb  
Wt

## I Talk Like a River

Jordan Scott, Sydney Smith

### Key Selling Points

**LYRICAL TEXT:** Jordan uses flowing prose and rich, naturalistic imagery to give life to the trials and triumphs of his early childhood.

**SUPPORTS THE LONELY AND DISENFRANCHISED:** A book for anyone who is differently abled, or anyone who feels ostracized and alone.

**AWARD-WINNING ILLUSTRATOR:** The inimitable Sydney Smith is the winner of the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the Greenaway Medal, and the Society of Illustrators Silver Medal.

**CANADIAN AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR:** Both author and illustrator are award winning Canadians.

**COMPASSIONATE FATHER FIGURE:** Features a parent who sympathetically encourages their child's individuality.

### Summary

**What if words got stuck in the back of your mouth whenever you tried to speak? What if they never came out the way you wanted them to?**

**Sometimes it takes a change of perspective to get the words flowing.**

**Winner of the Schneider Family Book Award**

**Boston Globe-Horn Book Award Winner**

**A New York Times Best Children's Book of the Year**

*I wake up each morning with the sounds of words all around me.*

*And I can't say them all . . .*

When a boy who stutters feels isolated, alone, and incapable of communicating in the way he'd like, it takes a kindly father and a walk by the river to help him find his voice. Compassionate parents everywhere will instantly recognize a father's ability to reconnect a child with the world around him.

Poet Jordan Scott writes movingly in this powerful and ultimately uplifting book, based on his own experience, and masterfully illustrated by Sydney Smith, winner of the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the highest international distinction given to author and illustrators of children's books. Now in paperback, *I Talk Like a River* is a book for any child who feels lost, lonely, or unable to fit in.

**Finalist for the BC and Yukon Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize**

**A Charlotte Zolotow Honor Book**

**An American Library Association Notable Children's Book**

**ILA Primary Fiction Honoree**

**Named a Best Book of the Year by *The Wall Street Journal*, *People Magazine*, *NPR*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Shelf Awareness*, *Bookpage*, *School Library Journal*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Publishers Lunch*, and more!**

**A Horn Book Fanfare Best Book of the Year**

**A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**

**A Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year!**

**A Chicago Public Library Best Book of the Year**

**A CBC Best Picture Book of the Year**

**A Kids' Book Choice Award Finalist**

### Contributor Bio

**Jordan Scott** is a poet whose work includes *Silt*, *Blert*, *DECOMP*, and *Night & Ox*. *Blert*, which explores the poetics of stuttering, is the subject of two National Film Board



of Canada projects, *Flub and Utter: a poetic memoir of the mouth* and *STUTTER*. Scott was the recipient of the 2018 Latner Writers' Trust Poetry Prize for his contributions to Canadian poetry. *I Talk Like a River* is Scott's first book for children. He lives in the Comox Valley on Vancouver Island with his wife and two sons.

**Author Residence:** Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

**Sydney Smith** is an illustrator of picture books whose work includes *Sidewalk Flowers* by JonArno Lawson; *The White Cat and the Monk* by Jo Ellen Bogart; and *Town Is by the Sea* by Joanne Schwartz, which was awarded the 2018 Kate Greenaway Medal and the 2018 Children's Literature Award. He both wrote and illustrated *Small in the City*, which *Kirkus Reviews* called "Extraordinary, emotional, and beautifully rendered." in a starred review. *School Library Journal* said "The use of line, reflection, and perspective masterfully evoke a bustling gray city." in another starred review. Travis Jonker of *100 Scope Notes*, a *School Library Journal* blog, said "*Small in the City* is one of my favorite books of 2019." He is a recipient of the prestigious Hans Christian Andersen Award, two Governor General's Awards for Illustrated Children's Books, and four *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year citations, among other accolades. He lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

**Illustrator Residence:**Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada



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Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature  
11.3 in H | 9.4 in W | 0.4 in T |  
1.1 lb Wt

## Hurricane

Jason Chin

### Key Selling Points

- **TIMELY TOPIC:** Hurricanes are growing increasingly destructive as a result of climate change. This primer on hurricane preparedness will be all too useful to coastal communities in helping children understand the storms, and to educators nationwide teaching climate science.
- **FOR JASON CHIN FANS:** Jason Chin is a Caldecott- and Sibert Medal-winning artist and a skilled science writer to boot, with past nonfiction titles named on numerous best-of-the-year book lists. *Hurricane* is another in this vein, coupling breathtaking illustrations with compulsively readable and finely researched text.
- **BOTH EXCITING AND COMFORTING:** *Hurricane* draws the reader in with the fearsome spectacle of howling winds and raging seas; but reassuringly highlights how we keep safe during hurricanes, with a moving focus on community care and teamwork.
- **A TREAT FOR AIRPLANE KIDS:** Kids interested in airplanes and daring missions will especially love the spotlight on “hurricane hunters”, air force planes which fly directly into hurricanes to gather data.
- **A NARRATIVE APPROACH:** Unlike other books on the subject, *Hurricane* is structured around the story of one place and one storm (and one cat, surviving it!). This grounding helps make the information digestible and engaging.

### Summary

**Caldecott and Sibert Medalist Jason Chin charts the thrilling saga of an island community’s brush with a category three hurricane, and the cutting-edge science that helps them prepare.**

It’s a beautiful day on Hatteras Island, North Carolina. But while all seems calm now, a hurricane is barreling across the Atlantic, and everyone is wondering when it will hit the U.S. coast. And where.

Night and day, meteorologists use satellites to monitor the storm. Brave pilots fly directly into the tempest, dodging lightning bolts to gather crucial data. Back on the island, families board up windows, drag furniture upstairs, and stock survival kits to prepare for what may come.

From its dramatic opening, *Hurricane* alternates between striking maps charting the hurricane’s progress and daily life on the island.

*Hurricane* is at once a fascinating view into a natural disaster and a reassuring survey of the tools we use to mitigate the damage. As climate change makes hurricanes ever more destructive, this engaging and rigorous book is perfect for classrooms, and for families making their own safety plans.

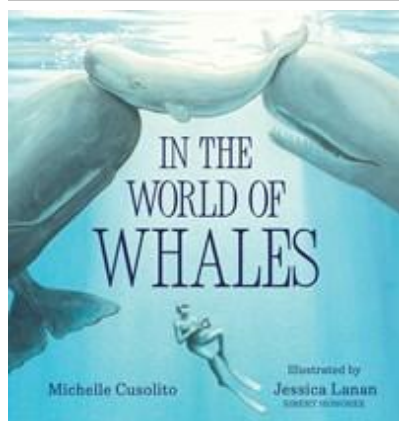
Jason Chin, winner of the Caldecott Medal for *Watercress* (written by Andrea Wang) and the Sibert Medal for *Life After Whale* (written by Lynn Brunelle) combines breathtaking artwork and clear, compelling text to make *Hurricane* a gripping read for all ages. At the end, find even more information about hurricanes, with visual aids for deeper understanding.

### Contributor Bio

**Jason Chin** is a celebrated author and illustrator of children’s books. He is a winner of the Caldecott Medal for his illustrations in Andrea Wang's *Watercress*, a Newbery Honor book and APALA award winner; and with author Lynn Brunelle, the Sibert Medal, for *Life After Whale: The Amazing Ecosystem of a Whale Fall*. His book *Grand Canyon* was awarded a Caldecott Honor, a Sibert Honor, and the NCTE Orbis Pictus Award. His other acclaimed nonfiction titles, including *Coral Reefs*, *Redwoods*, *Gravity*, *Island: A Story of*

*the Galapagos*, *Your Place in the Universe*, and *The Universe in You*, have received numerous starred reviews and other accolades. He lives in Vermont with his wife and children.

**Author Residence:** Vermont



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Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals  
10 in H | 9.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## In the World of Whales

Michelle Cusolito, Jessica Lanan

### Key Selling Points

- **FOR YOUNG ANIMAL WHISPERERS:** Any kid who has daydreamed about encountering wild animals will be wowed by this stranger-than-fiction account of a mother whale introducing her child to a human.
- **OUR HARMONY WITH NATURE:** Powerfully illustrates the unbreakable connections between humans, animals, and the wild world, making for a great conversation starter about ecological responsibility and care for our planet.
- **FACT-CHECKED BY THE DIVER:** The manuscript has been personally vetted by the diver whose story it recounts, Fred Buyle, as well as a second freediving expert. An author's note and further backmatter round out the text.
- **SIBERT HONOREE ILLUSTRATOR:** Jessica Lanan captivated readers with detailed jumping spider illustrations in her Sibert Honor book *Jumper*; now, she brings a much larger creature to life with equal vibrance and depth.
- **GORGEOUS POETIC TEXT:** A perfect marriage of information and art, experienced science book author Michelle Cusolito's lyrical text is as effortlessly moving as a whale drifting in still water.

### Summary

**Plunge deep into the awe-inspiring true story of a freediver's encounter with a newborn sperm whale and its family.**

When a freediver (one who dives without the benefit of oxygen) slips underwater, he encounters a pod of sperm whales so close he can almost touch them. When he sees blood in the water, he wonders if there's been an injury. When he comes even closer, what he finds instead is a moments-old calf, skin wrinkly and tail fluke still folded from the womb.

The calf's family nudges it up to breathe; nudges it toward each member of the pod, by way of introduction; and then it happens—the mother nudges her child toward the diver, inviting him, too, to share in the family moment.

Told from the vantage point of Belgian freediver Fred Buyle, who with his diving partner Kurt Amsler are the only people known to be present at the birth of a sperm whale, *In the World of Whales* features lyrical-yet-precise text by Michelle Cusolito and dreamlike illustrations by Jessica Lanan, creator of the Sibert Honor book *Jumper: A Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider*. Any child who dreams of speaking to animals will adore this proof of humanity's bond with the wild world. At the end of the story, find more information about freediving and whales.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

### Contributor Bio

**Michelle Cusolito** is the author of *Flying Deep: Climb Inside Deep-Sea Submersible Alvin*, winner of the PEN-NE Susan P. Bloom Children's Book Discovery Award; *Diving Deep: Using Machines to Explore the Ocean*, and *Window into the Ocean Twilight Zone: Twenty Four Days of Science at Sea*. A marine biology major before pivoting to education, she has always found chances to pursue science, such as a summer spent tagging butterflies as a research assistant in Ecuador. She lives with her family in Rochester, Massachusetts.

**Author Residence:** Rochester, MA

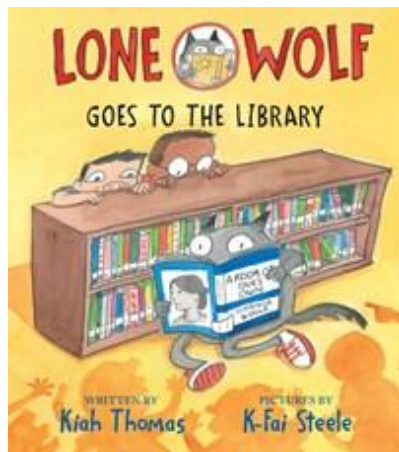
**Author Hometown:** Southeast MA

**Jessica Lanan** is the Sibert and Golden Kite Honor winning author and illustrator of

*Jumper: A Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider* and *The Fisherman and the Whale*, a Colorado Book Award finalist and winner of the Bull-Bransom Award for wildlife art. She has illustrated many other books, including *The Lost Package* by Richard Ho, *Just Right: Searching for the Goldilocks Planet* by Curtis Manley and *Thank You Moon* by Melissa Stewart. She lives in Boulder, Colorado with her daughter and cat.

**Illustrator Residence:**Boulder, CO

**Illustrator Hometown:**Rocky Mountains Region



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Juvenile Fiction / Humorous  
Stories  
Series: Lone Wolf  
8.3 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.6  
lb Wt

## Lone Wolf Goes to the Library

Kiah Thomas, K-Fai Steele

### Key Selling Points

- **PERFECT FOR BOOK LOVERS:** Wolf's quest in this book centers on his love of books. Like all introverts, he wouldn't be happy without them! Librarians, teachers, and bookworms alike will relate to the urgency of this particular Lone Wolf adventure.
- **UP AND COMING SERIES:** With four titles planned in the first year, this series is primed to fly off the hold shelves, as readers experience all the classic plots—vacation, library, animals, school, and so on—with a highly original misanthropic twist.
- **FOR EARLY READERS:** New readers who want to enjoy a story independently will benefit from short sentences, repeated phrases, and accessible vocabulary, along with compelling, funny illustrations that will help them learn how to read.
- **SUPER FUNNY ART:** K-Fai Steele's hilarious illustrations bring laughs on every page, with big facial expressions, cartoonish characters, irresistible energy, and not a few funny butts.
- **TOO MANY FRIENDS:** There are tons of kids' books about the value of friends. These books say it's okay to like being by yourself.
- **OSCAR THE GROUCH VIBES:** Wolf's grumpy outlook and the many annoyingly friendly characters he clashes with provide a steady stream of comedy.
- **A PARENT'S PARADISE:** Any parent—not to mention anyone on the introverted side—will relate to Wolf's preference for peace and quiet.

### Summary

**Oscar the Grouch meets Frog & Toad in this hilarious illustrated early reader series about a cranky wolf on a quest to be left alone.**

Wolf's library book is overdue, and the librarian says if it's not returned today, he will never ever be able to check a book out again. Wolf loves books. He can't let this happen.

Even worse: the book is due by the end of story time. Story time means tons of children having noisy fun. Can Wolf get to the library in time while avoiding his nemeses—other people—and preserve both his books . . . and his sanity?

Move over, Elephant & Piggie! For readers who have had enough of the buddy duos, for kids who'd rather play by themselves—Wolf is the antihero you've been waiting for. *Lone Wolf Goes to the Library* is another hilarious early reader starring the completely lovable, chronically grumpy Wolf, a character who affirms kids who fly solo better than with friends. Kids who are beginning to read on their own won't be able to get enough of Kiah Thomas's sarcastic stories, perfect whether read alone or out loud, and K-Fai Steele's laugh-out-loud illustrations will give any kid, no matter their reading level, a new favorite series.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

**Series Overview:** This hilarious early reader series stars the completely lovable, chronically grumpy Wolf, a character who affirms kids who fly solo better than with friends.

### Contributor Bio

**Kiah Thomas** is passionate about books that kids and adults can enjoy together. She is the author of the picture books *Allergic Alpaca*, *Foothand Elbownose*, and *Madeline Talbot Has a Bunny on Her Head*, and the middle grade novels *The Callers* and *The Hidden Forest*. She lives on the south coast of New South Wales, Australia, with her husband, three children and at least seven stuffed toy penguins.

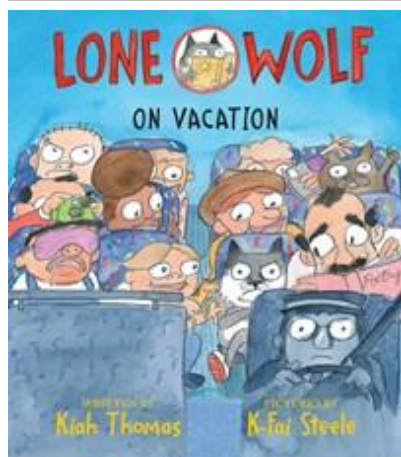


**Author Residence:** Mount Saint Thomas, New South Wales (Australia)

**K-Fai Steele** is the author and illustrator of *A Normal Pig* and *All Eyes on Ozzy!*, and the illustrator of numerous other picture books, including *Noodlephant* by Jacob Kramer, *Does a Bulldozer Have a Butt?* and *I Made These Ants Some Underpants* by Derick Wilder, and *The Brilliant Ms. Bangle* by Cara Devins. She is a recipient of the James Marshall Fellowship at the University of Connecticut and the Ezra Jack Keats/Kerman Memorial Fellowship at the University of Minnesota. Born in Charlton, Massachusetts, she now lives in Lausanne, Switzerland.

**Illustrator Residence:**Lausanne, Switzerland

**Illustrator Hometown:**Charlton, Massachusetts



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Juvenile Fiction / Humorous  
Stories

Series: Lone Wolf

8.3 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.6  
lb Wt

## Lone Wolf on Vacation

Kiah Thomas, K-Fai Steele

### Key Selling Points

- **TRAVEL ANXIETY:** Many kids will relate to feeling both excited and nervous to be in a new place. This book captures the highs and lows of taking a trip, and ends with a perfect depiction of the specialness of being at home.
- **UP AND COMING SERIES:** With four titles planned in the first year, this series is primed to fly off the hold shelves, as readers experience all the classic plots—vacation, library, animals, school, and so on—with a highly original misanthropic twist.
- **FOR EARLY READERS:** New readers who want to enjoy a story independently will benefit from short sentences, repeated phrases, and accessible vocabulary, along with compelling, funny illustrations that will help them learn how to read.
- **SUPER FUNNY ART:** K-Fai Steele's hilarious illustrations bring laughs on every page, with big facial expressions, cartoonish characters, irresistible energy, and not a few funny butts.
- **TOO MANY FRIENDS:** There are tons of kids' books about the value of friends. These books say it's okay to like being by yourself.
- **OSCAR THE GROUCH VIBES:** Wolf's grumpy outlook and the many annoyingly friendly characters he clashes with provide a steady stream of comedy.
- **A PARENT'S PARADISE:** Any parent—not to mention anyone on the introverted side—will relate to Wolf's preference for peace and quiet.

### Summary

**Oscar the Grouch meets Frog & Toad in this hilarious illustrated early reader series about a cranky wolf on a quest to be left alone.**

Wolf is excited for a peaceful, refreshing vacation: There, there'll be nobody he knows. Nobody he doesn't know. Nobody to bother him at all. Total relaxation.

But from a sing-along bus ride to a broken elevator to a hotel room snafu, Wolf can't seem to catch a break. And worst of all, some familiar old characters have somehow chosen the same dream destination. Will Wolf ever find solitude? Maybe the best vacation is a trip to an all-too-familiar place . . .

Move over, Elephant & Piggie! For readers who have had enough of the buddy duos, for kids who'd rather play by themselves—Wolf is the antihero you've been waiting for. *Lone Wolf On Vacation* is another hilarious early reader starring the completely lovable, chronically grumpy Wolf, a character who affirms kids who fly solo better than with friends.

Kids who are beginning to read on their own won't be able to get enough of Kiah Thomas's sarcastic stories, perfect whether read alone or out loud, and K-Fai Steele's laugh-out-loud illustrations will give any kid, no matter their reading level, a new favorite series.

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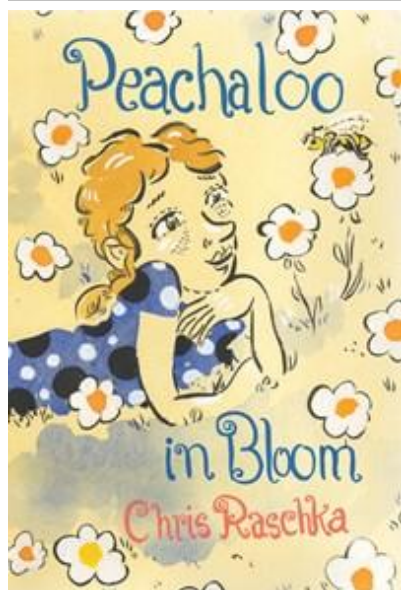
husband, three children and at least seven stuffed toy penguins.

**Author Residence:** Mount Saint Thomas, New South Wales (Australia)

**K-Fai Steele** is the author and illustrator of *A Normal Pig* and *All Eyes on Ozzy!*, and the illustrator of numerous other picture books, including *Noodlephant* by Jacob Kramer, *Does a Bulldozer Have a Butt?* and *I Made These Ants Some Underpants* by Derick Wilder, and *The Brilliant Ms. Bangle* by Cara Devins. She is a recipient of the James Marshall Fellowship at the University of Connecticut and the Ezra Jack Keats/Kerman Memorial Fellowship at the University of Minnesota. Born in Charlton, Massachusetts, she now lives in Lausanne, Switzerland.

**Illustrator Residence:**Lausanne, Switzerland

**Illustrator Hometown:**Charlton, Massachusetts



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

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Peachaloo in Bloom

Chris Raschka

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCLAIMED ARTIST'S ILLUSTRATED NOVEL:** Chris Raschka is the winner of the Caldecott Medal, a Caldecott Honor, and a Hans Christian Andersen Award nomination, and is now poised for greatness in a whole new sphere with this hilarious, poignant, beautifully written novel, complete with black and white illustrations throughout.
- **GATEKEEPER APPEAL:** *The Wasp's* special blend of fine literary prose, idiosyncratic humor, and underdog characters is sure to be a hit with many librarians and teachers.
- **INCIDENTAL DISABILITY REP:** Our daring protagonist Peachaloo has a leg length discrepancy and moves with a limp, a powerful bit of representation in a world where disabled characters are still so often cast as the villains—or where a disability is a main plot point. Here it's merely a part of the way Peachaloo experiences the world.
- **STANDING UP TO THE MAN:** *The Wasp* is a rousing tale of a community coming together against the forces of capitalism and ecological destruction. Simply put, the powerless good guys are trying to take down the rich bad guy! Kids disheartened by the troubles of the world will find inspiration in Peachaloo's good fight.
- **SMALL-TOWN AUTHENTIC:** Like a Christopher Guest movie, this book points out all the idiosyncrasies of hometown life in a way that will make the town familiar to anyone who's ever lived in a small community. Lovable and strange, built upon tradition, this town is entirely its own and entirely accessible to all readers.
- **ALL KINDS OF FUNNY:** Chris Raschka's writing is hilarious, clever, silly, punny, and totally absurd all at the same time! No matter the kind of reader, there are jokes here for them.

### Summary

***Waiting for Guffman* meets *Parks and Recreation* for middle grade readers, in this one-of-a-kind illustrated novel from Caldecott Medalist Chris Raschka, where a wasp sting grants Peachaloo a useful new superpower.**

Two very large things have just happened to Peachaloo Piccolozampa. First, she's discovered a plot to ruin her favorite swimming hole and replace it with a golf course. Second, a wasp sting has given her the superpower to understand the truth behind what people say.

Peachaloo knows a golf course is not the destiny for the grounds of the Ajax Mansion, a former monastery whose jump-roping denizens proclaimed it freely open to all. But the mansion's new owner has other ideas—and has managed to bury the evidence of the Brothers and Sisters' wishes. Now it's up to Peachaloo to use her superpower to prove this villain a liar, star in the annual pageant, and somehow get her town back the way it's supposed to be.

Caldecott Medalist Chris Raschka proves as deft with pen as paintbrush in this sizzlingly witty tale of Extraordinary Wasp Perception, oyster-slinging bank robbers, and a community standing strong against the forces of greed and real estate. Illustrations sprinkled throughout paint a small town entirely unique and yet all too familiar to readers across the U.S. Readers of all ages won't want to miss the next train to the big-hearted, peculiar, one-of-a-kind town of Fourwords.

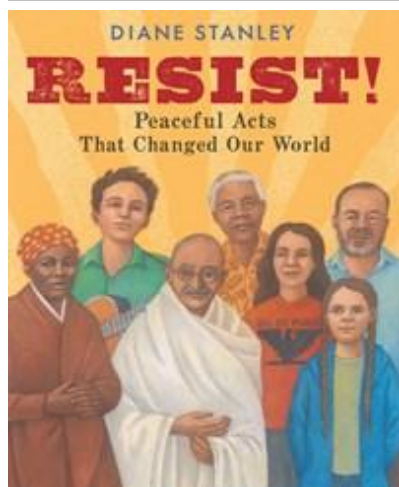
**A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**

**Contributor Bio**

**Chris Raschka** is the Caldecott Medal-winning and Hans Christian Andersen Award-nominated author and illustrator of dozens of books for young readers, including *A Ball for Daisy*, *Yo! Yes?*, *The Hello, Goodbye Window* (written by Norton Juster) and *Nothing: John Cage and 4'33"* (written by Nicholas Day). He is also a violist. He lives in New York City.

**Author Residence:** New York, NY

**Author Hometown:** Chicago, IL



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Juvenile Nonfiction / Activism &  
Social Justice  
11 in H | 9 in W | 0.1 in T | 0.5 lb  
Wt

## Resist!

### Peaceful Acts That Changed Our World

Diane Stanley

#### Key Selling Points

- **COMPREHENSIVE:** Captures a wide breadth of history, from well-known historical figures like Harriet Tubman and Mohandas Gandhi to new waves of activists like Greta Thunberg and the March For Our Lives protestors.
- **FOCUSES ON NON-VIOLENCE:** Highlights the importance and effectiveness of peaceful protests, with tactics that remain relevant today.
- **INCLUDES RICH SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL:** Includes extensive backmatter, an essay from the author, and a bibliography of related titles for further reading, all accompanied by gorgeous artwork.

#### Summary

**With protests sweeping the nation and the world, young readers will be inspired by these accounts of activists who refused to be ignored.**

"This book is right on time."—*Nikki Grimes, Children's Literature Legacy Medal Winner*

From music to marches, from sit-ins to walk-outs, activists throughout history have defended the disenfranchised and demanded change, refusing to back down even in the face of violent suppression and overwhelming opposition. Today, a new generation of activists has arisen, speaking up in unprecedented numbers against systemic oppression, bias, and injustice.

Now available in paperback, *Resist!* is a collection of twenty-one brief but comprehensive essays accompanied by striking artwork and rich supplementary material by Diane Stanley. *Resist!* reminds us of those who fought for the world we have today, and gives us strength for the fights that lay ahead.

Featured figures include: Harriet Tubman, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Woody Guthrie, Mohandas Gandhi, Irena Sendler, The Hollywood Ten, Claudette Colvin and Rosa Parks, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, The Greensboro Lunch Counter Sit-in protestors, Martin Luther King, Jr., Larry Itliong, Dolores Huerta, Cesar Chavez, Richard Oakes, The Tree-Sitters of Pureora, Father Luis Olivares, Tank Man, Nelson Mandela, Ryan White, Ai Weiwei, the "It Gets Better" Project, The March For Our Lives protestors, and Greta Thunberg.

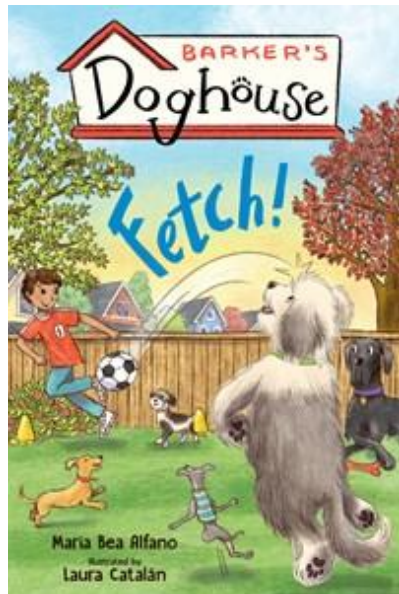
Diane Stanley, award-winning author and illustrator of many distinctive informational books for young people, writes with passion and conviction of the world's greatest activists, past and present, in this book which is as hopeful as it is inspiring.

#### Contributor Bio

**Diane Stanley** is the author and illustrator of more than fifty books for children, noted especially for her series of picture book biographies, including *Shaka, King of the Zulus* and *Leonardo da Vinci*. She has received both the Boston Globe/Horn Book Award and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators' Golden Kite Award. She was also the recipient of the Washington Post/Children's Book Guild Award for Nonfiction for the body of her work. She lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**Author Residence:** Santa Fe, New Mexico





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Hardcover

160 Pages  
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Juvenile Fiction / Animals  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## Barker's Doghouse 1: Fetch!

Maria Bea Alfano, Laura Catalán

### Key Selling Points

- **EARLIEST MIDDLE GRADE READERS:** This series is for the youngest end of the middle-grade market, which is currently underserved.
- **EVERYONE'S SECRET FANTASY:** Doesn't everyone secretly wish they could talk to animals?
- **COMPELLING SEL CONTENT:** The dogs in this series deliver wisdom and strategies that help Gio– or any kid – find a way in new social contexts. This is critical information for kids who missed years of social development during the pandemic.
- **SEL AND FRIENDSHIP FOR BOYS:** More particularly, this series prioritizes the social development of a BOY, which teachers, parents, and librarians have all identified as a real need.
- **HILARIOUS ROMPS AND HEARTWARMING CHARACTERS:** A perfect balance of doggy humor and human warmth.
- **STRONG NEW SERIES:** Future books in this series are named for commands that dogs learn in dog school, for instance *Leave It!* (in which Gio has to be patient even though he doesn't want to), *High Five!* (in which Gio has a big success) and *Stay!* (in which Gio takes a major step toward feeling settled in his new town).

### Summary

**The first 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*.**

Ten-year-old Gio Barker is down in the dumps. His mom has uprooted him to a new school and a new town, all so she can start her own business. Gio used to see friends after school, but now he's stuck hanging around his mom's new doggy day care. Then one day he mistakes a dog biscuit for a human cookie, and suddenly he can talk to the dogs!

The day care dogs become the friends Gio desperately needs. They tell him some of the great secrets of dog life, and he takes them for wild romps in the park. But when the dogs realize that Gio is struggling, they take it upon themselves to teach him everything they know. Sure, they're lessons from dog school, but some of these skills are useful in any context. Take Fetch, for instance. It's a game of give and take – perfect skills to practice if Gio wants to make the soccer team or find a human friend!

### 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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272 Pages  
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &  
Recreation

8.5 in H | 5.8 in W | 0.9 in T | 0.8  
lb Wt

## Gamers 1: Attempting Connection

E. C. Myers

### Key Selling Points

- **FAST-PACED AND FUN:** The books in this series deliver the same pace and adventure as all the best games.
- **GAMING ON THE PAGE:** While 75% of kids engage in gaming and/or e-sports, these worlds are barely reflected in middle grade fiction. This series seeks to change that.
- **POSITIVE SCREEN TIME:** *Gamers* combines the action and adrenaline of gaming with an exploration of the community and character that gaming can build. Not all screen time is harmful!
- **BEYOND LICENSED STORIES:** *Gamers* builds on the insatiable appetite that young readers have shown for licensed books based on games like Minecraft and Roblox.
- **GENDER EQUITY:** The stereotypical gamer is male, but in real life girls and nonbinary kids love games, too. That truth is reflected in this series.
- **STEM PLUS SEL:** This series touches on the STEM knowledge necessary for gaming, while also delivering SEL content in the form of stories about teamwork and friendship.
- **UP-AND-COMING AUTHOR:** E.C. Myers, an avid gamer, is the author of several books based on the anime web series RWBY. *After the Fall*, the first of his RWBY books, even received a Kirkus star, highly unusual for a book of this kind.

### Summary

**With nonstop in-game action, ATTEMPTING CONNECTION captures all the adrenaline of gaming plus its fierce power to bring people together.**

It's one week into middle school, and Chell Park is already in the principal's office. Not ideal for a new girl.

But a chance meeting in line connects her to some kids who like gaming, just like her. First they compete against each other, and then they realize *they could compete together*.

Sure, gaming's been banned at Chell's house since her parents split up. But Chell can't just give up on something she loves, right? Quietly, she gathers the group into an esports team.

By the time they enter their first competition, the gamers are way more than just teammates -- they're friends. And what Chell learns from gaming could even help her find a way forward at home.

ATTEMPTING CONNECTION features fast-paced online action and imaginative new games, but at its heart it's a warm and classic tale of a team coming together and teammates finding a place where they belong.

### Contributor Bio

New York Times and USA Today bestselling author E.C. Myers (he/him) won the Andre Norton Nebula Award for his first novel, *Fair Coin*, and is the author of the SOS Thriller series and several RWBY young adult books: *After the Fall*, *Before the Dawn*, *Fairy Tales of Remnant*, and *Roman Holiday*. His short fiction has been published in various anthologies, including *Tasting Light*, *Mother of Invention*, and *A Thousand Beginnings and Endings*. He has also cowritten several podcast serials, including *Orphan Black: The Next Chapter*, *CTRL+ALT+Destroy*, and *ReMade*.

**Author Residence:** Poughkeepsie, NY



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Hardcover  
  
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Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Fiction / Thrillers & Suspense  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## National Archive Hunters 2: Eternal Flame

Matthew Landis

### Key Selling Points

- **ACCLAIM FOR BOOK ONE IN SERIES** includes selection by Junior Library Guild and a starred review from Booklist
- **HIGH-OCTANE MIDDLE GRADE ADVENTURE JUST IN TIME FOR SUMMER:** Thrilling, hilarious, and clever, this is a read kids will devour. Throw it in the hands of reluctant readers, MG reading groups, summer reading, reader's choice and more.
- **STEALING THE CATEGORY:** Spy/secret agent stories have perpetual strong commercial appeal.
- **NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE NEWS:** The National Archives are all over the headlines these days, and this series taps into a less-known power they have: investigating art and artifact crimes.
- **AN AUTHOR WITH ACCOLADES:** Landis's books have won numerous awards and made a number of state lists. His *The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody* was an ILA Teacher's Choice and a Bank Street Best Book of the Year.
- **SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER-AUTHORED, METICULOUSLY RESEARCHED WITH NCSS TIES:** Landis has an educator draw that lends credibility to the history underpinning this series. He's also a meticulous researcher and has made contacts with the institutions featured in this book. With the classroom ties, this is a NCSS shoe-in.
- **PROMOTION SUPERSTAR:** Landis is taking a sabbatical from teaching from January to June 2025 to do a round-the-country school visit tour promoting this series. He currently has more than 50 schools booked, and he'll be keeping us apprised of all details.
- **WIDE AUDIENCE APPEAL:** Featuring a brother and sister teaming up, there's a broad readership.
- **GOING INTERNATIONAL:** In future books, investigations and artifacts will move beyond US borders as our team connects with their counterparts abroad to give this an international feel (like *City Spies*) with international appeal.
- **SPECIAL SALES OPPORTUNITIES:** This is a no brainer to pitch for the International Spy Museum with its healthy kids collection. Also, potential for a myriad of DC museum shops—The National Archives, among them.

### Summary

**Twins Ike and Iris Carter race from D.C. to Paris to New York on the trail of one of America's most iconic treasures, before it disappears like smoke. The second book in a breathtaking and hilarious middle grade action-adventure series.**

Fresh off saving the French Four—a quartet of American treasures—and their mom's museum, Carter twins Ike and Iris are back in Washington, D.C. when they're summoned to the National Archives by the FBI Art Crimes Team because the Statue of Liberty is missing.

Well, not the *statue*. But pieces of the flame packed away in 1916 have somehow vanished. The Smithsonian has organized an elaborate, high-profile event around the artifacts in six days -- with the presidents of both the U.S. and France set to attend --and the flame's absence will be a national embarrassment.

The National Archive Hunters jump into action, learning everything they can about Lady Liberty's construction, including that Gustave Eiffel helped original sculptor Frederic Bartholdi by designing the supports for the flame . . . and that one of Eiffel's original sketches is missing. They need to see what was so important on that page, and that means getting to France, where another set of Eiffel's sketches is housed.

Ike and Iris need a French connection tout de suite, or the relationship between America and its oldest ally might be snuffed out.

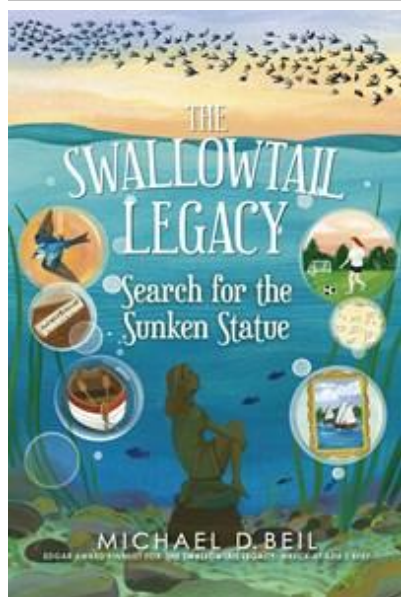
### **Contributor Bio**

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**Matthew Landis** is an eighth-grade social studies teacher (the one you wish you had). His middle grade books *The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody*, *It's the End of the World as I Know It*, and *Operation Final Notice* have won many awards and accolades, including being named an ILA Teacher's Choice and a Bank Street's Best Book. He is also the author of the YA novel *League of American Traitors*. He lives in Doylestown, PA with his wife, four kids, chickens, and a boxer who acts very much like the forgotten eldest child.

**Author Residence:** Doylestown, Pennsylvania





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Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &  
Detective Stories  
Series: The Swallowtail Legacy  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

## The Swallowtail Legacy 3: Search for the Sunken Statue

Michael D. Beil

### Key Selling Points

- **A CONTEMPORARY MYSTERY WITH A CLASSIC FEEL:** In a story with the feel of *Holes* and *The Westing Game* and the sensibility of modern classics like *The Parker Inheritance* and *From the Desk of Zoe Washington*, mystery lovers have a new hero to cheer.
- **A MULTIPLE-TIME EDGAR-NOMINATED AUTHOR:** *Wreck at Ada's Reef* was nominated for the Mystery Writers of America's Edgar Award. Beil's *Red Blazer Girls* was also an Edgar Finalist
- **REAL-LIFE SHIPWRECKED TREASURES** are a constant source of interest, and the Great Lakes setting makes this story distinct.
- **THE OVERARCHING STORY** of who controls Swallowtail Island – the good guys or the bad? – as well as will-they-or-won't-they be stinking rich girls continues!
- **LISTEN UP:** The first two books in the series are now available as Blackstone audiobooks.
- **ACCOLADES:** The first two books in the series have received a total of four starred reviews, and *Wreck at Ada's Reef* was an Amazon Editor's Choice.
- **PUBLICATION PLAN:** The paperback of *Betrayal By The Book* will release shortly before this hardcover.

### Summary

**The third installment of this Edgar Award-nominated series is another engrossing two-pronged adventure.**

Following the Swallowtales writers' conference, there are two visitors to the island. Chase Kannen, a dashing, 30ish explorer/adventurer arrives on a huge expedition yacht in search of a bronze statue of Cassandra (from Greek mythology) lost off the deck of a cargo ship in a storm on the lake in the 60's. He has a film crew with him, making a documentary about the search. They find the statue, but shortly thereafter, while it is displayed on the deck of the yacht, it disappears. If it's not found, Kannen will be able to collect the insurance money, which is in the millions.

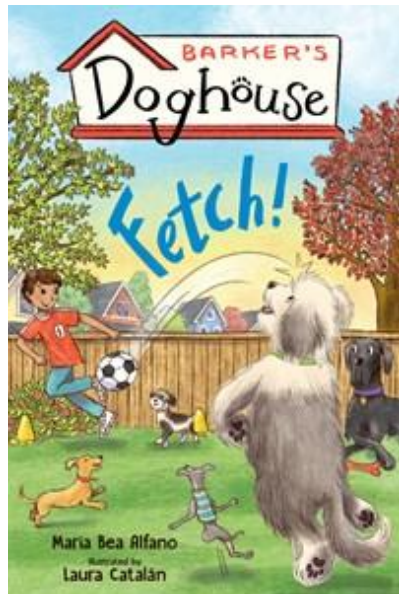
Meanwhile, Lark and Pip's Aunt Abigail, their mom's estranged sister, arrives by ferry. The sisters haven't seen their aunt since they were 5 and 3, and they're not sure why she has decided to come now. Of course, it turns out Aunt Abigail has heard about the deed of land on Swallowtail that might leave Lark and Pip very rich. Turns out Aunt Abigail has a scheme to get the girls to sell their rights to the land . . . with her help, and "for a small percentage."

**Series Overview:** A twelve-year-old uncovers a decades-old mystery on the island where she's spending the summer in this soon-to-be-a-classic series.

### Contributor Bio

In a time not long after the fifth extinction event, Edgar Award-nominated author **Michael D. Beil** came of age on the shores of Pymatuning Lake, where the ducks walk on the fish. (Look it up. Seriously.) In addition to *The Swallowtail Legacy*, he is the author of many middle grade novels including the *Red Blazer Girls* series. For reasons that can't be disclosed until September 28, 2041, he now lives somewhere in Portugal with his wife and their two white cats, Bruno and Maisie.

**Author Residence:** Portugal



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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 1: Fetch!

Maria Bea Alfano, Laura Catalán

### Key Selling Points

- **EARLIEST MIDDLE GRADE READERS:** This series is for the youngest end of the middle-grade market, which is currently underserved.
- **EVERYONE'S SECRET FANTASY:** Doesn't everyone secretly wish they could talk to animals?
- **COMPELLING SEL CONTENT:** The dogs in this series deliver wisdom and strategies that help Gio– or any kid – find a way in new social contexts. This is critical information for kids who missed years of social development during the pandemic.
- **SEL AND FRIENDSHIP FOR BOYS:** More particularly, this series prioritizes the social development of a BOY, which teachers, parents, and librarians have all identified as a real need.
- **HILARIOUS ROMPS AND HEARTWARMING CHARACTERS:** A perfect balance of doggy humor and human warmth.
- **STRONG NEW SERIES:** Future books in this series are named for commands that dogs learn in dog school, for instance *Leave It!* (in which Gio has to be patient even though he doesn't want to), *High Five!* (in which Gio has a big success) and *Stay!* (in which Gio takes a major step toward feeling settled in his new town).

### Summary

**The first 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*.**

Ten-year-old Gio Barker is down in the dumps. His mom has uprooted him to a new school and a new town, all so she can start her own business. Gio used to see friends after school, but now he's stuck hanging around his mom's new doggy day care. Then one day he mistakes a dog biscuit for a human cookie, and suddenly he can talk to the dogs!

The day care dogs become the friends Gio desperately needs. They tell him some of the great secrets of dog life, and he takes them for wild romps in the park. But when the dogs realize that Gio is struggling, they take it upon themselves to teach him everything they know. Sure, they're lessons from dog school, but some of these skills are useful in any context. Take Fetch, for instance. It's a game of give and take – perfect skills to practice if Gio wants to make the soccer team or find a human friend!

### 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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368 Pages  
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &  
Detective Stories  
Series: The Curious League of  
Detectives and Thieves

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## The Curious League of Detectives and Thieves 3: The Peruvian Express

Tom Phillips

### Key Selling Points

- **OWN THE WHOLE SET:** Readers can now add the third paperback in The Curious League of Detectives and Thieves series to their collection
- **LITERARY ALLUSIONS TO MAKE ARMCHAIR DETECTIVES PROUD:** An homage to Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express*, mystery lovers will adore how Phillips takes familiar tropes and twists them into his own engrossing tale.
- **MORE MADCAP MG MYSTERY:** Mysteries remain one of the strongest drivers of the middle grade market. Ridiculous antics and a fantastically formed cast make this particularly appealing.
- **AN AUTHOR EAGER TO PROMOTE:** Phillips is eager and charismatic, and will be great asset in-person and virtually. He'll leverage his Hollywood connections to continue the series momentum.
- **SERIES OPTION:** Variable Realities Studio has acquired dramatic rights to develop Curious League into an animated series.

### Summary

**Now in paperback! All aboard for a high-speed new case in the third installment of this middle grade mystery series for fans of *A Series of Unfortunate Events* and *Enola Holmes*.**

Stranded on a mountain in Peru after the crash of a luxury airship, John Boarhog has only one mission on his mind: reuniting with his mentor and guardian, Inspector Toadius McGee. John's convinced that if he makes his way to a plume of smoke in the distance, the great detective will be waiting. The only problem is there's a whole rainforest between them.

After battling their way through the Amazon, John and his friends find a train—The Peruvian Express—and its glittering owner, Oro Del Rey, the Golden King, who offers them passage as they continue to search for their loved ones.

Soon John's investigation goes off the rails when he's asked to help to locate an infamous Object of Doom. But he's not the only one on the hunt. . . .

The third book in The Curious League of Detectives and Thieves, *The Peruvian Express* is a hilarious, fast-paced mystery packed with action, wit, and another unforgettable adventure.

**Series Overview:** *The Curious League of Detectives and Thieves* is a quirky, voice-y, madcap mystery/adventure series perfect for fans of *A Series of Unfortunate Events* and *Enola Holmes*.

### Contributor Bio

Despite a lifelong struggle with dyslexia, Tom Phillips grew up with a passion for storytelling. He writes books that kids can enjoy on their own, but also read aloud and share, including the first book in the Curious League series, *Egypt's Fire*. He's had a long career as a writer and artist for clients such as HBO, Disney, and ABC. An armchair Sherlockian, Tom lives in Los Angeles with his lovely wife and his dog, Dr. Watson.

**Author Residence:** Los Angeles, CA

**Author Hometown:** Colorado



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Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7  
Juvenile Fiction / Thrillers & Suspense  
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

## National Archive Hunters 1: Capitol Chase

Matthew Landis

### Key Selling Points

- **NEW FORMAT:** This paperback edition will be perfect for readers on the move.
- **HIGH-OCTANE MIDDLE GRADE ADVENTURE JUST IN TIME FOR SUMMER:** Thrilling, hilarious, witty, and clever, this is a read kids are going to devour. Throw it in the hands of reluctant readers, MG reading groups, summer reading, reader's choice and more.
- **STEALING THE CATEGORY:** Spy/secret agent stories have perpetual strong commercial appeal in the book and film worlds.
- **NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE NEWS:** The National Archives are all over the headlines these days, and this series taps into a less-known power they have: investigating art and artifact crimes.
- **AN AUTHOR WITH ACCOLADES:** Landis's books have won numerous awards and made a number of state lists. His *The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody* was an ILA Teacher's Choice and a Bank Street Best Book of the Year.
- **SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER-AUTHORED, METICULOUSLY RESEARCHED WITH NCSS TIES:** As the eighth-grade social studies teacher you wish you had, Landis has an educator draw that lends credibility to the history underpinning this series. He's also a meticulous researcher and has made contacts with the institutions featured in this book. With the classroom ties, this is a NCSS shoe-in.
- **PROMOTION SUPERSTAR:** Landis is a school visit king and great at engaging promotion. He does eight major school visits a year, recording pre-visit videos for each to get the kids pumped, and is also great at creating fun digital assets.
- **MORE ON THE WAY:** We have a second title signed up for Summer 2025.

### Summary

**Now in paperback. Twins race to find the thief stealing valuable historical artifacts before their family's framed for the crimes in this high-octane middle grade action-adventure series starter for fans of *City Spies* and *Alex Rider*.**

Ten-year-old Ike Carter has committed large chunks of American history to memory. That's what happens when you're a genius who loves the past. His twin, Iris, prefers the present (aka *reality*). She's an elite athlete, dominating the competition thanks to her wicked-sharp spatial awareness.

During the opening night of a new exhibit at their mom's boutique museum in Washington, D.C., Ike and Iris inadvertently stumble onto a robbery in progress. A girl not much older than them is stealing a miniature portrait of George Washington from the collection. It's only the first in a string of crimes, all focused on items that were once gifted by the Marquis de Lafayette to his American friends. With some help from the National Archives Research Center, the twins puzzle out the culprit's next targets, and are soon hot on the trail of the mystery girl.

But their efforts also put them in the crosshairs of the FBI's Art Crime team, who suspect their family is involved. If the twins can't catch the real perp as they target the final item, it'll be game over.

An action-packed series opener from highly-acclaimed author Matthew Landis, *Capitol Chase* introduces a new secret agent team sure to engross fans of *National Treasure*, *City Spies*, and *Alex Rider* with plot twists and turns that make this one unputdownable from first page to last.

### A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

**Series Overview:** Ten-year-old twins Iris and Ike Carter investigate the disappearance

of historically significant artifacts throughout the world.

## Contributor Bio

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**Matthew Landis** is an eighth-grade social studies teacher (the one you wish you had). His middle grade books *The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody*, *It's the End of the World As I Know It*, and *Operation Final Notice* have won many awards and accolades, including being named an ILA Teacher's Choice and a Bank Street's Best Book. He is also the author of the YA novel *League of American Traitors*. He lives in Pennsylvania with his wife, four kids, 35 chickens, and 3 cats. He hasn't slept well since 2015.

**Author Residence:** Doylestown, Pennsylvania



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Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &  
Detective Stories  
Series: The Swallowtail Legacy  
8 in H | 5.3 in W | 0.9 in T | 0.6 lb  
Wt

## The Swallowtail Legacy 2: Betrayal by the Book

Michael D. Beil

### Key Selling Points

- **NEW IN PAPERBACK:** This paperback edition will release right around the third hardcover in the series to get readers excited for Lark's next thrilling chapter.
- **A CONTEMPORARY MYSTERY WITH A CLASSIC FEEL:** In a story with the feel of *Holes* and *The Westing Game* and the sensibility of modern classics like *The Parker Inheritance* and *From the Desk of Zoe Washington*, mystery lovers have a new hero to cheer.
- **A MULTIPLE-TIME- EDGAR-NOMINATED AUTHOR:** *Wreck at Ada's Reef* has been nominated for the Mystery Writers of America's Edgar Award. Beil's *Red Blazer Girls* was also an Edgar Finalist.
- **BIBLIOPHILES LOVE BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS:** A writer's conference setting and a suspect list full of publishing pros is candy for booksellers, librarians, and book lovers. Bring on the books!

### Summary

**Now in paperback. A suspicious death at a writer's conference means a new mystery in the second book in this middle grade series by an Edgar Award-nominated author.**

Swallowtail Island is hosting the Swallowtales Writers Conference. Lark's ecstatic to be chosen as a "page" for her favorite author, Ann E. Keyhart.

But they say you should never meet your idols. When Keyhart arrives with her personal assistant in tow, she is nothing but a terror. And within a few hours, the assistant is dead! But the explanation isn't sitting well. Not when lots of people had reasons to want to be rid of Keyhart, and especially not after it's revealed the assistant recently completed a hot new novel and the file's vanished from her computer.

Then Lark finds out the assistant had a bird—the match to the one she found hidden in her mom's book—and she needs answers. It looks like Swallowtail Island still has secrets to reveal, and Lark's going to uncover them.

A gripping new chapter in the Swallowtail Legacy series, Mike D. Beil spins another clever clue hunt that seamlessly slips in alongside the classics of middle grade mystery.

**Series Overview:** A twelve-year-old uncovers a decades-old mystery on the island where she's spending the summer in this soon-to-be-a-classic series.

### Contributor Bio

In a time not long after the fifth extinction event, Edgar Award-nominated author **Michael D. Beil** came of age on the shores of Pymatuning Lake, where the ducks walk on the fish. (Look it up. Seriously.) In addition to *The Swallowtail Legacy*, he is the author of many middle grade novels including the *Red Blazer Girls* series. For reasons that can't be disclosed until September 28, 2041, he now lives somewhere in Portugal with his wife and their two white cats, Bruno and Maisie.

**Author Residence:** Portugal