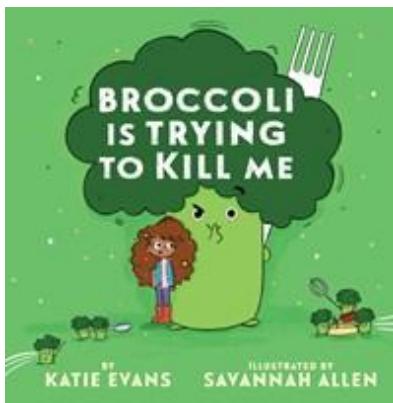


HOLIDAY HOUSE



Spring 2026



Broccoli Is Trying to Kill Me

Katie Evans, Savannah Allen

Summary

It's one girl against an army of vegetables in this hilariously hyperbolic picture book about our leafy green (and red, orange, purple, and yellow) frenemies.

Grownups say they're harmless, but kids know the truth: vegetables are dangerous!

Deep in the dark of the refrigerator, they make their devious plans. Spinach will try to smother you. The radishes are ready to rumble. The kale is clutching cutlery.

And of all the evil veggies, broccoli is the worst. If you let it out of the vegetable drawer, it will attack before you can say "I want mac and cheese instead!" Your dad won't listen, anyway, and hiding under the table won't work, either. There's only one thing left to do...

Take a bite out of this giggle-worthy picture book with whimsical illustrations, perfect for picky eaters and veggie fans alike. Pairs nicely with *The Bad Seed* and *Creepy Carrots*.

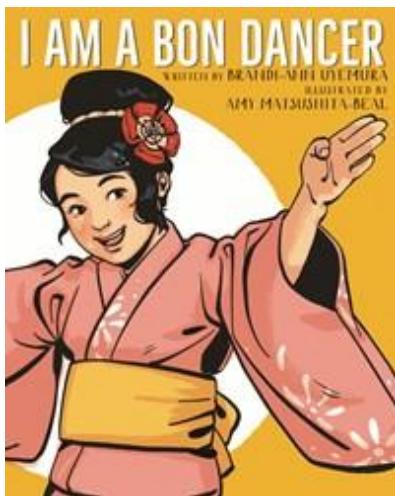
Contributor Bio

Katie Evans is the mother of a vegetable-adverse kid, as well as a former newspaper and magazine writer. *Broccoli Is Trying to Kill Me* is her picture book debut. She lives with her family in Phoenix, Arizona. Visit her online at <https://authorkatieevans.com/>

Author Residence: Phoenix, AZ

Savannah Allen is the self-taught author/illustrator of picture book *The Nature Journal*, which received a starred review from Kirkus Reviews, and the illustrator of the Sprinkles & Swirls young graphic novel series. She lives in Nashville, where you might find her snacking, skateboarding, or soaking in life with three little ones. Visit her online at <https://www.savannahleeallen.com/>

Illustrator Residence: Nashville, TN



I Am a Bon Dancer

Brandi-Ann Uyemura, Amy Matsushita-Beal

Summary

A Japanese-American girl at the Obon festival is too shy to dance—until her encouraging grandfather reminds her what's being celebrated.

*I thread each arm through my peach sleeves.
Grandpa Jo ties the bright yellow sash around me.
I check to make sure the paper flowers in my hair are on just right.
I am ready for my first Bon dance festival!*

It's a young Japanese-American girl's first time at the "Festival of Souls," one of the largest Buddhist festivals. It's just like her grandfather described: the smell of corndogs, the glow of hanging paper lanterns, the beat of taiko drums. But Grandpa Jo didn't tell her that everyone else already knew how to dance!

Suddenly, the lanterns feel like spotlights. She wish, wish, wishes she could dance, but she can't bring herself to try... until Grandpa Jo encourages her to remember the meaning of the Obon Festival—celebrating our family members who have passed on—and to imagine her beloved Grandma Nat dancing along with her. Because she is there, and behind her are her parents, sugar-cane cutters, and behind them are their parents, who came to Hawai'i on ships from Japan...

*My body moves to the rhythm of the music.
I am a bon dancer, one in a line of dancing ancestors.*

Contributor Bio

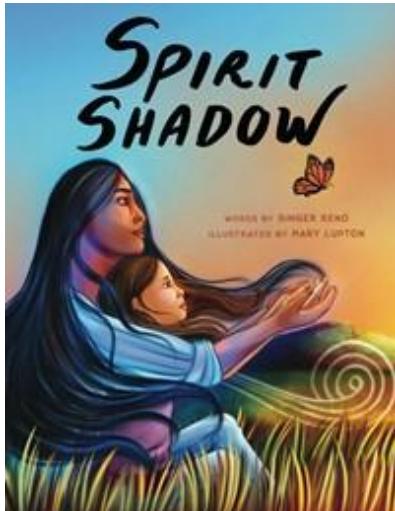
Brandi-Ann Uyemura is a fifth-generation Japanese American (gosei) from Oahu, Hawaii. She has a masters in counseling psychology and has written self-help and psychology essays for Mother.ly, Whole Life Times, Spirituality & Health, MindBodyGreen, Yoga Journal, and US News. In 2020, she won a picture book mentorship with Andrea Wang, who helped her develop *I Am a Bon Dancer*, her debut. Find her at brandi-annuyemura.com.

Author Residence: Mililani, Hawaii

Amy Matsushita-Beal is a freelance illustrator, designer, and hand-letterer based in Tokyo. They were born and raised in Los Angeles and graduated from Art Center College of Design.

Illustrator Residence: Tokyo, Japan

Illustrator Hometown: Los Angeles, California



Spirit Shadow

Ginger Reno, Mary Lupton

Summary

An Indigenous child discovers her heritage in this story about the power of our ancestors and the way they guide and shapes us, even when we don't know it yet.

Willa has always had two shadows. One at her feet and another that's been quietly beside her since the night of her birth. Always just out of reach.

Until Mom and Willa take a trip to Diligwa, a replica of an ancient Cherokee village. And it's here among wattle and daub houses and brown hands crafting, Willa realizes that Spirit is her ancestors, beckoning her to claim her Cherokee heritage. For Willa to join a Nation over 400,000 strong.

Beautifully told, *Spirit Shadow* is a powerful tale about reclaiming culture and finding your way home. Lovingly illustrated by debut illustrator Mary Lupton, each spread is a feast for the eyes. Filled with nods to Cherokee beadwork and weaving as well as Cherokee syllabary, Willa's story is suffused with love and tenderness. The book ends with a moving conclusion for children everywhere to embrace their own ancestors.

Back matter includes a note about Diligwa and the Cherokee Nation.

Contributor Bio

Ginger Reno has always been a writer—it just took a while for her to figure that out. (Her first clue should've been her family always calling her "the wordy one"). An enrolled citizen of the Cherokee Nation, her desire to learn about Cherokee history and culture has naturally spilled over into her writing. Ginger lives in northeast Oklahoma, within the Cherokee Nation, and spends a lot of lakefront porch time with her two favorite people—her husband and their German shepherd.

Author Residence: Wagoner, Oklahoma

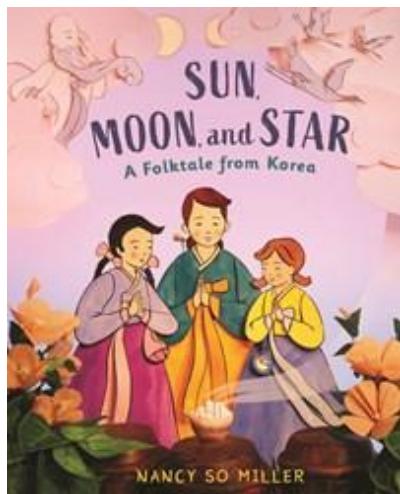
Mary Lupton is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation from Oklahoma City. Mary pursued her passion for art after completing her multidisciplinary studies degree and a minor in electrical engineering at the University of Oklahoma. Mary's art has garnered such honors as the People's Choice Award (Painting Category) at the 52nd Trail of Tears Art Show and 1st Place (Painting Category) at the 71st Cherokee National Holiday Art Show. She lives in Oklahoma.

Illustrator Residence: Oklahoma

Illustrator Hometown: Oklahoma City

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\$18.99
Hardcover

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



Sun, Moon, and Star

A Folktale from Korea

Nancy So Miller

Summary

Three sisters must outsmart a hungry tiger in this fresh retelling of a beloved Korean folktale.

When Eomma goes to market she has only one rule for her three daughters, don't open the door until her return. There are creatures that roam the nearby mountains.

But as the hours pass, the sisters grow anxious. Surely, Eomma will be home soon. And when there's a knock at the door, the girls jump to let Eomma in. Except, it is *not* their mother at the door.

Debut Nancy So Miller updates this centuries-old story with her gorgeous cutpaper art, for which she carefully constructed and photographed each scene. From the fiery orange of the tiger to the soothing shades of a lilac sky, this is a visually lush retelling. Perfect for fans of the original as well as fairy tales like Little Red Riding Hood.

Back matter includes a bibliography and more information about the original story and Korean history and culture.

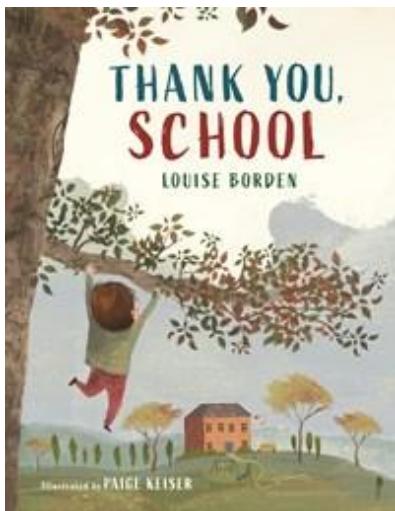
Contributor Bio

Nancy So Miller is an illustrator and art teacher. She received her MFA in Illustration from the Savannah College of Art and Design in 2022. For the past 11 years, she has worked as an art educator (K-12). She is the SCBWI Southern Breeze Local Liaison for Savannah and currently teaches art (K-8) to some of the sweetest students! When Nancy is not making art, she is cooking with her family and sharing her love of Korean cuisine. She lives with her husband, son, and two guinea pigs in Savannah, Georgia.

Author Residence: Savannah, Georgia

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\$18.99
Hardcover

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



Holiday House
9780823455690
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Business,
Careers, Occupations
11 in H | 8.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Thank You, School

Louise Borden, Paige Keiser

Summary

How many people make the school day possible? Let's say thank you to every single one, in this picture book of thank you poems from kids to their school community helpers.

*THANK YOU
to our custodians
who care for our school
and fix everything.*

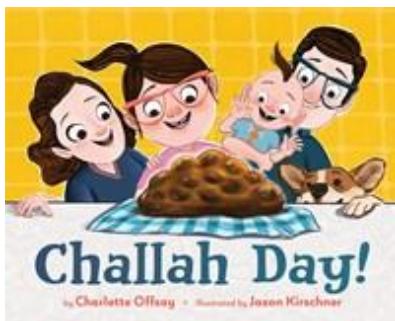
Join kids across the country as they go to school and thank each person that helps them during their day. Each page of this collection features a poem from a child to someone who helps them during their day. From bus drivers to custodians to librarians to teachers of all kinds, everyone's job is important.

Perfect for back to school or end-of-year gifts, *Thank You School* celebrates the unsung heroes in children's lives. And for young readers it is perfect for starting conversations about gratitude and focusing on positivity of even the smallest things in their day.

Contributor Bio

A recipient of a Christopher Award and a Sydney Taylor Award, Louise Borden is the author of highly acclaimed, strong-selling children's books that stay in print for a long time. The subjects she writes about are informed by her experiences as a teacher and as a bookseller. Her books include *The Journey That Saved Curious George: the True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*, *America IS...*, *Off to First Grade*, and more.

Paige Keiser is an award-winning children's book artist who has illustrated *Little Chef*, *Mia Moves Out*, and more. She currently lives and works in Virginia, and happily grew up during the age of Saturday morning cartoons. She graduated with a BA in Studio Art from George Mason University (while playing drums in a rock band called *Desert Sky*). Paige has two studio assistant dogs named Piper and Cooper, one of which is a chihuahua who barks if she hears a noise from two states away.



Challah Day!

Charlotte Offsay, Jason Kirschner

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***

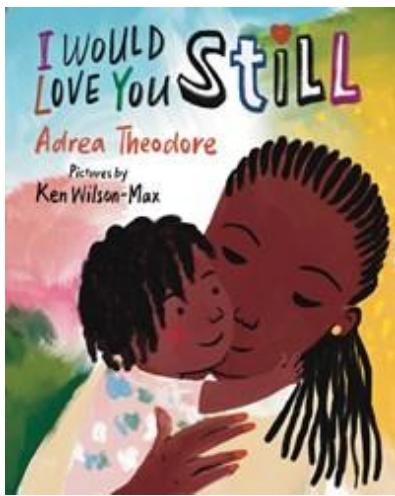
Contributor Bio

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 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 or on Instagram at @jkirsch118.



I Would Love You Still

Adrea Theodore, Ken Wilson-Max

Summary

A trip to the zoo inspires a parent to list all the ways they love their child, no matter how wild they are, in this rhyming picture book.

What if you had cheetah spots? Or flew like an eagle?

Follow a parent and child from a fun-filled trip to the zoo through a mess filled day and all the way to bedtime. No matter how wild a child is, a parent's love never wavers.

If you sang like a screech owl in the night, I would be there to hug you tight.

If you crawled like a gecko up the wall, I would still love you best of all.

If you dangled upside down like a possum in a tree, that wouldn't matter at all to me! I would love you still.

Cuddle up at bedtime to share these charming animal rhymes and giggle at the adorable illustrations. This celebration of the special bond between parent and child is the perfect gift for baby showers, new parents, or any occasion!

Contributor Bio

Adrea Theodore is a mother, a pediatrician and author of *A History of Me* from Neal Porter Books. Growing up on Long Island, she was the kind of girl who almost always had a book in her hand, a library card in her pocket, and a stack of books in the corner waiting to be read — or returned for more books. She currently lives in Durham, North Carolina where she works with children at a local child advocacy center.

Author Residence: Durham, North Carolina

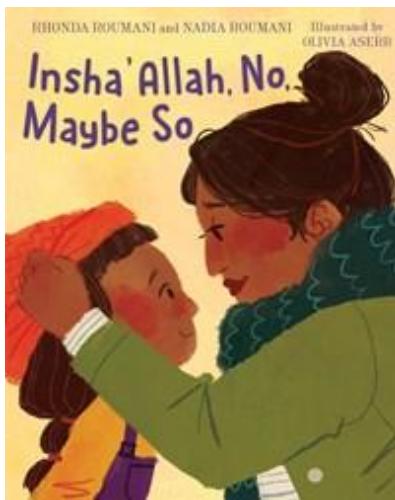
Author Hometown: Long Island, NY

Ken Wilson-Max is the illustrator of over 70 books for children worldwide in more than 10 languages, including *The Little Plant Doctor* from Holiday House, *Little Red Plane*, and *Astro Girl*, which was a STEAM AWARD for Early Years Picture Books Winner and a Bank Street College Best Book of the Year.

Illustrator Residence: London, England

Holiday House
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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 6, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Family
10 in H | 8.3 in W | 0.1 in T | 0.3
lb Wt



Insha'Allah, No, Maybe So

Nadia Roumani, Rhonda Roumani, Olivia Aserr

Summary

A sweet and playful picture book about a common Arabic word for life's uncertainties that will ring true for all families.

Ranya wants to go to the park. "Insha'Allah," her mom tells her.

But doesn't that just mean no? Ranya's mom says "Insha'Allah" when Ranya asks to make cookies. She says it when Ranya wants to sleep over at Jayda's house. She says it when Ranya begs to go to Disneyland.

This might sound familiar to parents and caregivers . . . It's hard to know what to say when you can't promise anything! Sometimes grown-ups say "Maybe" or "We'll see." And in millions of Arab and Muslim homes around the world, families use the phrase "Insha'Allah" when talking about the future.

So, what does "Insha'Allah" *really* mean? In this warmly illustrated picture book, Ranya and her mom tackle the meaning of the powerful phrase and ponder the best way to talk about their hopes and dreams—and maybe, sometimes, the things they want to put off. (Like cleaning up toys!)

Cozy art and joyful, loving characters make this a perfect family read aloud.

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

Contributor Bio

Rhonda Roumani is a Syrian-American journalist who has written about Islam, the Arab world and Muslim-American issues for more than two decades. She is the author of the middle grade novel *Tagging Freedom* and picture book *Umm Kulthum: Star of the East*. Visit her at www.rhondaroumani.com.

Nadia Roumani is a social entrepreneur, coach, consultant, and co-founder of the University of Southern California's American Muslim Civic Leadership Institute and Stanford University's Effective Philanthropy Learning Initiative. She is also a Senior Designer with Stanford University's Hasso Plattner Institute of Design.

Olivia Aserr is the half Egyptian, half Irish American illustrator of *A Mermaid Girl* by *Sana Rafi and Mama in Congress: Rashida Tlaib's Journey to Washington* by Rashida Tlaib and Miranda Paul. She works as a background painter at Disney Television Animation, and enjoys swing dance and costume making in her free time. Olivia lives in Los Angeles with her dog, Bonnibel. Visit her at www.oliviaaserr.com

Illustrator Residence: Los Angeles, CA

My Family Plays Music

Judy Cox, Elbrite Brown

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Holiday House
9780823462667
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On Sale Date: 1/3/2079
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Performing Arts
8.5 in H | 11.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

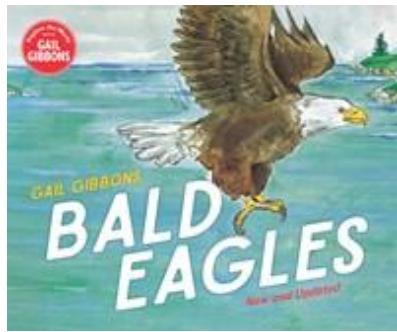
Summary

Ping! Ping! Cha-cha-cha! In this lively introduction to different kinds of music, a little girl tries out lots of instruments so she can play with her whole family! She rings a triangle with her dad's string quartet, jingles a cowbell with her brother's rock band, and hits a woodblock with her aunt's jazz group! Festive and animated cut paper art helps the sounds of music to leap off the page in this award-winning primer on musical genres.

Contributor Bio

Judy Cox is a former elementary school teacher and the author of picture books such as *Haunted House*, *Haunted Mouse* and chapter books including *Ukelele Hayley*, a Bank Street College Best Book, and *The Secret Chicken Society*, which was nominated for four state awards and named a Best of the Best title by the Chicago Public Library. She lives in Oregon.

Elbrite Brown is an art teacher and children's book author.



Bald Eagles

Gail Gibbons

Summary

Fly high with the Bald Eagle, our national bird, in this new and updated edition of a classic from the go-to source for children's nonfiction, Gail Gibbons.

With its white head and tail feathers, the Bald Eagle is an iconic symbol of strength and freedom. These magnificent raptors are essential to their ecosystems. This new and updated edition, vetted by an expert, includes the latest scientific information about Bald Eagles.

Well-labeled diagrams and illustrations show the physical traits of Bald Eagles, how they fly, where they live, how they raise their young, and much more. A page of fun facts about Bald Eagles is also included.

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.

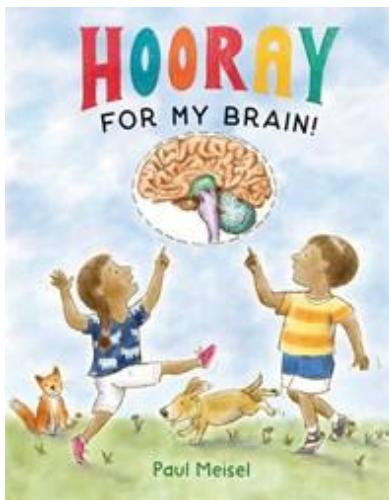
Contributor Bio

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Author Residence: Corinth, VT

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Hardcover

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Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
9 in H | 11 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Hooray for My Brain!

Paul Meisel

Summary

How can you jump, read, and smell yummy food? Find out in this easy-to-read introduction to the human brain by Theodor Seuss Geisel Honoree Paul Meisel.

Find all of the answers to your brain in this accessible picture book about the body's most amazing organ and the systems it controls. What does your brain look like? Like a gray sponge. How does it tell my body to do all those incredible things? Nerves that send messages to every part of your body. Discover how your body can dribble a soccer ball, shiver in the cold, and taste yummy tacos. Learn about the five parts of the brains, what they do, and how they work.

Hooray for My Brain! breaks down vocabulary like cerebellum and neurons with simple, straightforward language. Fun-filled, energetic artwork shows kids the connections between how they play and what's going on inside their body. Award-winning author and illustrator Paul Meisel makes the human brain easy to understand for the youngest readers.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

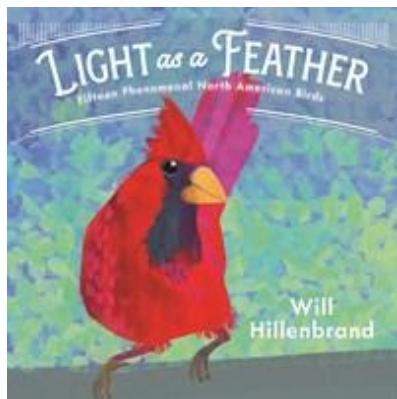
Contributor Bio

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 Science Books, and *The Schmutzy Family*, written by Marilyn Rosenberg and illustrated by Paul Meisel, was a National Jewish Book Award Finalist.

Author Residence: Connecticut

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\$19.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature
11 in H | 8.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Light as a Feather

Fifteen Phenomenal North American Birds

Will Hillenbrand

Summary

Let your curiosity take flight with this nonfiction picture book exploring the world of North American birds from acclaimed author Will Hillenbrand.

Why are feathers so light? Why do woodpeckers drum? What should you do if you find an injured bird? Acclaimed picture book author Will Hillenbrand has the answers that are sure to make readers' imaginations soar!

In these pages you'll meet North America's most fascinating birds, like nature's drummers (the woodpecker) to its most dynamic dancers (the sandhill crane) and flashiest fliers (the blue jay), and more. Colorful maps explore the bird's habitats, and bright, accessible infographics invite readers to experience every part of the birds' world, from the brown pelican's seven-plus foot wingspan to the light waves that make bluebirds so blue. In this vibrantly-illustrated nonfiction picture book, the sky's the limit on what there is to learn.

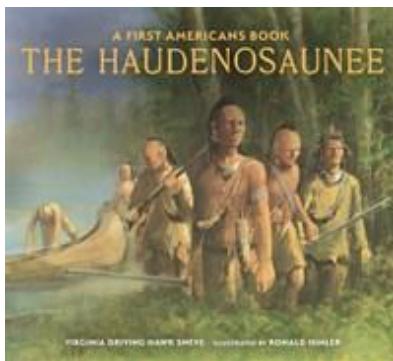
Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Cincinnati, OH

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\$19.99
Hardcover

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



The Haudenosaunee

Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, Ronald Himler

Summary

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

Did you know that lacrosse was invented by the Haudenosaunee peoples? They originally called it the Medicine Game or the Creator's Game. Learn about the nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy: Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, Senecas, and Tuscaroras. In this accessible introduction, read about the Haudenosaunee creation story, democratic government, precious wampum beads, religious ceremonies, and more.

Expertly reviewed by a member of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, this updated edition provides the most up to date and accurate information on the Haudenosaunee 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

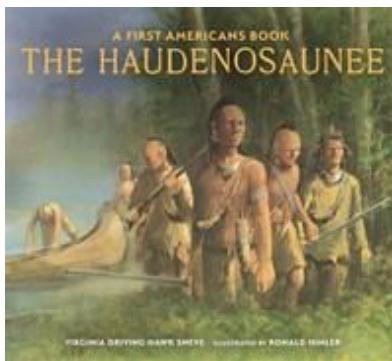
Born in Cleveland Ohio, renowned illustrator Ronald Himler attended the Cleveland Institute of Art, where he majored in painting and illustration. Ron has illustrated more than 75 picture books and earned many awards over the course of his career, including the prestigious Society of Illustrators Silver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

Illustrator Residence: Tucson, AZ

Illustrator Hometown: Cleveland, OH

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\$19.99
Hardcover

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



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On Sale Date: 2/17/2026
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

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

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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.

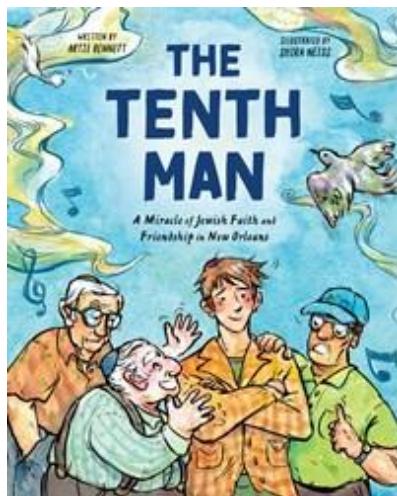
Author Residence: Rapid City, South Dakota

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



The Tenth Man

A Miracle of Jewish Faith and Friendship in New Orleans

Artie Bennett, Shira Neiss

Summary

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

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

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

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

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

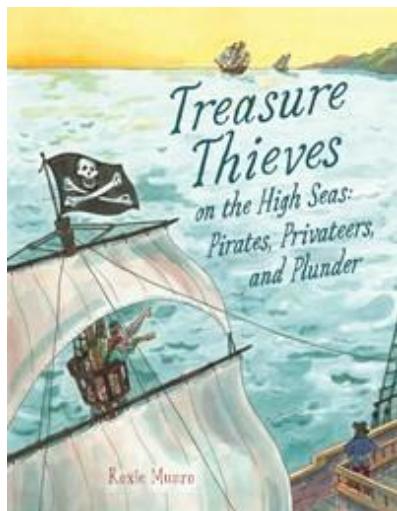
Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Brooklyn, NY

Shira Neiss is an illustrator, printmaker, and educator. Her work is whimsical, irreverent, and possesses a strong Jewish and feminist sensibility. Shira is based in Brooklyn. *The Tenth Man* is her debut.

Illustrator Residence: Brooklyn, NY



Treasure Thieves on the High Seas

Pirates, Privateers, and Plunder

Roxie Munro

Summary

What was it like to live on a pirate ship? Climb aboard and set sail with acclaimed author Roxie Munro in this nonfiction picture book adventure through the ages!

Did pirates really have peg legs? Did they make captives and disobedient crew "walk the plank?" What treasures did they actually steal? Were there toilets onboard ships? Nonfiction pro Roxie Munro has the answers to kids' questions about the real-life pirates kids love!

In this historical and scientifically-oriented approach to a popular topic, Munro invites young readers aboard to sail the seven seas with pirates of legend—Blackbeard, Calico Jack, and more! Beyond meeting the fascinating fiends of the open ocean (like the infamous Blackbeard, who relied on the power of intimidation, and Grace O'Malley, the "Pirate Queen"), readers will sail full STEAM ahead as they learn about navigation technology, the environment, economics, geology, architecture, and more.

The back matter will include a glossary, information on different types of vessels, and maps of famous captains' routes to enable young readers to truly take their turn at the helm.

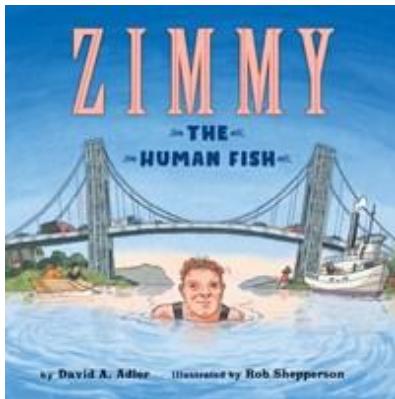
Contributor Bio

Roxie Munro has written and illustrated more than 40 books for children, including *Rodent Rascals*, which received three starred reviews, and *Anteaters, Bats, and Boas*, which received two starred reviews. Munro speaks widely at educational conferences on the topic of learning and gamification as well as conducting regular interviews for and covering events for KidLit TV. She is also the creator of several award-winning apps for children. She lives in New York, NY.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Holiday House
9780823459476
Pub Date: 2/24/2026
On Sale Date: 2/24/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Nonfiction / Pirates
11.3 in H | 8.8 in W | 0.4 in T | 1
lb Wt



Holiday House
9780823455508
Pub Date: 1/20/2026
On Sale Date: 1/20/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography

10.3 in H | 10.3 in W | 0.4 in T |
0.9 lb Wt

Zimmy

The Human Fish

David A. Adler, Rob Shepperson

Summary

Meet Charles "Zimmy" Zibelman, the legless athlete who swam from Albany to New York City, in this nonfiction picture book from bestselling author David A. Adler.

On August 23, 1938, "The Legless Wonder" Charles Zibelman began his daring swim to New York City—a one hundred forty-five mile journey that would take him six days to complete. Swimming for up to a hundred hours at a time without stopping, he was covered in barnacles by the time he arrived at his destination to thousands of cheering spectators. When he arrived at a Harlem hospital for recuperation after his exhausting journey, he told paramedics, "I feel kind of funny being out of the water."

Charles "Zimmy" Zibelman cites having no legs as the key to his achievements—he could bob in the water like a cork and even sleep while staying afloat! "The Human Fish" was truly one with the water, and his lively personality is as memorable as his achievements.

Nonfiction pro David A. Adler and prolific illustrator Rob Shepperson introduce readers to one of history's most amazing athletes, who swam against the current to break records and make a name for himself in newspapers around the country. Disabled daredevil Zimmy's story is an action-packed yet true tale sure to make a splash with educators and young readers alike.

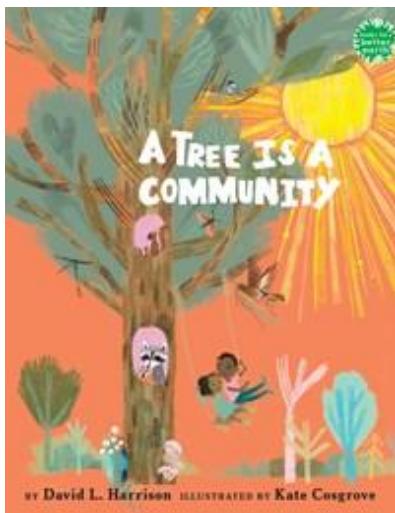
Contributor Bio

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, New York

Rob Shepperson's editorial illustrations have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. The children's books he has illustrated include *Thunderboom!* by David L. Harrison and **Blue Daisy** by Helen Frost. He lives on the Hudson River, along Zimmy's route, in Croton-on-Hudson.

Illustrator Residence: Croton-on-Hudson, New York



A Tree Is a Community

David L. Harrison, Kate Cosgrove

Summary

One tree supports an ecosystem of life— insects, mammals, and even humans. Discover the surprising biodiversity of trees in this science picture book from award-winning creators of *And the Bullfrogs Sing* and *The Dirt Book*.

A tree is more than just a plant, but a whole ecosystem hiding in plain sight, on street corners and in backyards everywhere. Discover how one tree provides shelter, food, and clean air to a host of animals and insects. Robins build their nest in the branches and bees gather nectar from flowers. The tree keeps its neighborhood clean, healthy, and safe. Leaves clean the air and roots keep the dirt from washing away. The tree's residents are safe through thunderstorms and changing seasons. This home is built to last!

*Those buds POP open
and bees BUZZ
and rain SPLASHES
and sun SIZZLES*

Author David L. Harrison's lively, rhythmic text informs and excites readers about the ecosystem of trees. Illustrator Kate Cosgrove's lush and dynamic illustrations color a charming world aglow with life. This award-winning team, from *And the Bullfrogs Sing* and *The Dirt Book*, are back with another picture book that invites young readers into the natural world around them. *A Tree Is a Community* is perfect for the budding naturalist.

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.

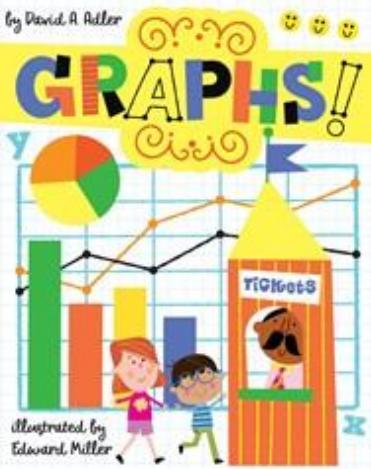
Contributor Bio

David L. Harrison's books have received state awards in Kansas, Missouri, Michigan, Arizona, South Dakota, Indiana, Texas, Kentucky, and Virginia. Awards also include IRA/CBC Children's Choices, NCTE Notable Poetry Books, and Bank Street College Best Books. The David Harrison Elementary School in Springfield, Missouri, is named in his honor. David lives in Springfield, Missouri.

Author Residence: Springfield, Missouri

Kate Cosgrove is the #1 New York Times bestselling illustrator of *A Day With No Words*; winner of the Dolly Gray Children's Literature Award. Cosgrove's book illustrations juried into The 41st and 43rd Original Art Annual Exhibition in NYC. Her other notable picture books include *And the Bullfrogs Sing: A Life Cycle Begins*, named a Bank Street Best Book of the Year and a Maryland Blue Crab Young Reader Award Honors book, and *The Dirt Book: Poems About Animals That Live Beneath Our Feet*, which was selected for the Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List. She's usually hiding in her probably-haunted art studio, with pencil-smudged fingers and a smelly dog named Stanley.

Illustrator Residence:Lansing, Michigan



Graphs!

David A. Adler, Edward Miller

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!

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 | 0.1 in T | 0.3 lb
Wt

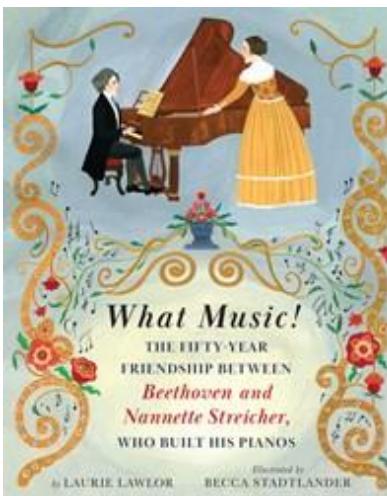
Contributor Bio

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 Zipping, 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 @eprimary.

Illustrator Residence: Beacon, New York



What Music!

The Fifty-year Friendship between Beethoven and Nannette Streicher, Who Built His Pianos

Laurie Lawlor, Becca Stadtlander

Summary

Strings quivered. Notes shimmered. Meet best friends acclaimed composer Ludwig van Beethoven and bold female entrepreneur Nannette Streicher in this lively and lyrical nonfiction picture book.

*In a tall, narrow building on a wide avenue
pianos plinked and plunked day and night.
Everyone in quiet Augsburg knew the Stein home.
What music!*

Holiday House
9780823460267
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/3/2079
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Nonfiction / Music
10 in H | 8 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

In 1787, aspiring yet unknown composer Ludwig van Beethoven arrives at young Nannette Stein's home. What follows is a decades-long friendship that persists whether life hits a low or high note. Acclaimed nonfiction writer Laurie Lawlor deftly depicts how these two fascinating friends—a composer with hearing loss and a woman who became an innovative piano maker in a time that discouraged female entrepreneurship—fought the odds and worked together in perfect harmony.

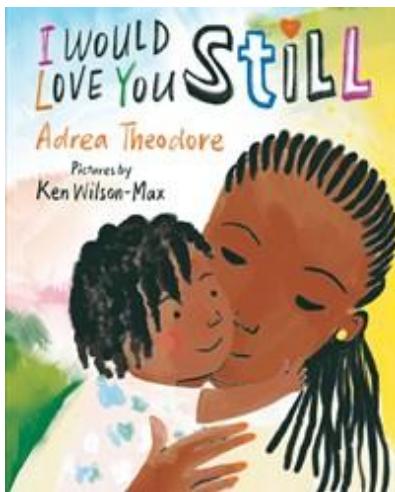
The author of picture book biography *Fearless World Traveler*, Lawlor masterfully uses forgotten historical letters, a glossary, and rich back matter on both friends' lives and art to introduce readers to the man behind the music, from his loud laughter to his crushing handshake.

Complete with *Fearless World Traveler* collaborator Becca Stadtlander's intricate mixed-media artwork, *What Music* deftly dives into musical history—and herstory—in an intimate yet expansive picture book biography that hits just the right note.

Contributor Bio

Laurie Lawlor is a prolific and celebrated author of children's books. Her picture book biography *Rachel Carson and her Book That Changed the World* was named a Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year and a National Science Teachers Association Outstanding Science Trade Book and received the John Burroughs Riverby Award. Her *Super Women: Six Scientists Who Changed the World* was named a NSTA-CBC Outstanding Science Trade Book. She lives and teaches in the Chicago metropolitan area.

Becca Stadtlander is an award-winning illustrator and fine artist. She won the Golden Kite Award for Picture Book Illustration for *Made By Hand: A Craft Sampler*. She also illustrated *On the Wing* by David Elliott, which received two starred reviews as well as a Golden Kite Award. She attended the Maryland Institute College of Art and currently lives and works in her hometown of Covington, Kentucky.



I Would Love You Still

Adrea Theodore, Ken Wilson-Max

Summary

What if you had cheetah spots? Or flew like an eagle? Mom still loves you! A trip to the zoo inspires a parent to list all the ways they love their child, no matter how wild, in this padded board book.

Follow a parent and child from a fun-filled trip to the zoo, a mess-filled day, and all the way to bedtime. No matter how wild a child is, a parent's love never wavers. Cuddle up with charming animal rhymes and adorable illustrations.

*If you sang like a screech owl in the night, I would be there to hug you tight.
If you crawled like a gecko up the wall, I would still love you best of all.
If you dangled upside down like a possum in a tree, that wouldn't matter at all to me!
I would love you still.*

In a durable, small format, this padded board book is ideal for tiny, wild toddler hands. For animal-obsessed toddlers, they can point to their favorites and love making each animal sound. This celebration of the special bond between parent and child is the perfect gift for baby showers, new parents, or any occasion!

Contributor Bio

Adrea Theodore is a mother, a pediatrician and author of *A History of Me* from Neal Porter Books. Growing up on Long Island, she was the kind of girl who almost always had a book in her hand, a library card in her pocket, and a stack of books in the corner waiting to be read — or returned for more books. She currently lives in Durham, North Carolina where she works with children at a local child advocacy center.

Author Residence: Durham, North Carolina

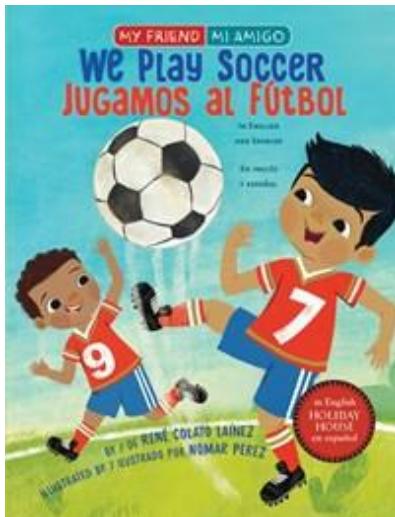
Author Hometown: Long Island, NY

Ken Wilson-Max is the illustrator of over 70 books for children worldwide in more than 10 languages, including *The Little Plant Doctor* from Holiday House, *Little Red Plane*, and *Astro Girl*, which is a STEAM AWARD for Early Years Picture Books Winner and a Bank Street College Best Book of the Year.

Illustrator Residence: London, England

Holiday House
9780823462421
Pub Date: 1/20/2026
On Sale Date: 1/20/2026
\$10.99
Board Book

32 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Family
8.3 in H | 6.8 in W | 0.8 in T | 0.7
lb Wt



Holiday House
9780823462582

Pub Date: 3/17/2026

On Sale Date: 3/17/2026

\$8.99

Board Book

28 Pages

Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Hispanic & Latino

6 in H | 4.6 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

We Play Soccer / Jugamos al fútbol

René Colato Laínez, Nomar Perez

Summary

Joe speaks English. He loves soccer. José habla español. A José le gusta el fútbol. This English-Spanish bilingual story is now available as a board book!

Hola, Joe. / Hi, José.

I have my uniform. / Tengo mi uniforme.

I am ready. / Estoy listo.

Two boys, an English speaker and a Spanish speaker, are on the same soccer team. They have their uniforms and their cleats. They can both juggle the ball. And when the coach lets them in the game, both Joe and José score goals. "We win," says Joe. "Ganamos," says José.

A delightful reading experience, this book is perfect for toddlers in 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, 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 the board book edition of *Let's Be Friends, Seamos Amigos*, by René Colato Laínez; illustrated by Nomar Perez.

Series Overview: MY FRIEND, MI AMIGO: Friendship stories in English and Spanish. Joe's English dialogue is repeated verbatim by José in Spanish. *Let's Be Friends, Seamos Amigos* *Let's Play Soccer, Juguemos al Fútbol*.

Contributor Bio

René Colato Laínez is the author of bilingual picture books, including *Señor 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.

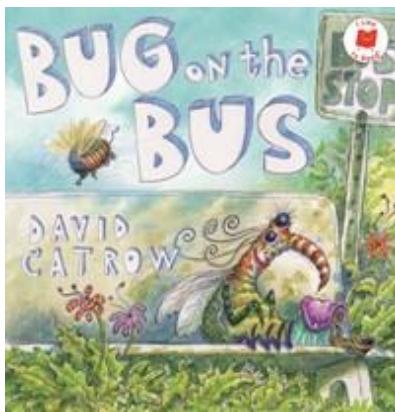
Author Residence: California

Author Hometown: El Salvador

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.

Illustrator Residence:Cleveland, OH

Illustrator Hometown:Ponce, PR



Holiday House
9780823461080
Pub Date: 1/13/2026
On Sale Date: 1/13/2026
\$15.99

Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: I Like to Read

9.3 in H | 9 in W | 0.3 in T | 0.6 lb
Wt

Bug on the Bus

David Catrow

Summary

This funny story by an award-winning artist is the perfect story for practicing simple phonics.

Bug ran to the bus.

Hop on.

Bat ran to the bus.

Bug, Bat, Hen, Cat, Pig, Pup, and Fox all hop on the bus. Everything is fine until skunk hops on too!

This decodable story is laugh-out-loud funny.

David Catrow, the award-winning creator of two *New York Times* Best Illustrated Books and multiple bestselling picture books, applies his prodigious talent to a story that will delight children as they embark on their reading adventure.

The story has eighty-three words with short vowels, twelve consonants, two sight words and two blends.

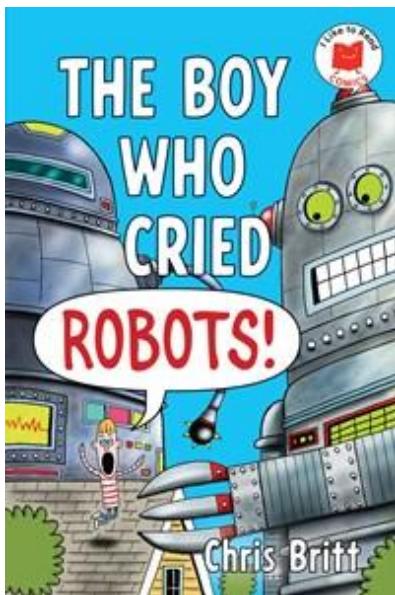
The books in the award-winning I Like to Read® series build vocabulary and promote fluency, which are essential for reading success. Acclaimed author-illustrators--including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, Pura Belpré, and Coretta Scott King awards and honors--create original, high-quality books that 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!

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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), *Fun In the Sun*, and *My Dog Is Best*. Mr. Catrow also worked on the visual development for the animated feature *Horton Hears a Who!* He lives in Ohio. Learn more at catrow.com.

Author Residence: Ohio



The Boy Who Cried Robots!

Chris Britt

Summary

A funny comic with robots, monsters, and aliens—that's just right for second graders!

Sam claims a monster ate his homework, the tub is full of alligators, and extraterrestrials have named their planet in his honor.

But when Sam's exaggerations alienate his classmates, the tall tales escalate.

Are robots really attacking his house? (Of course not! Sam made it up!)

As in Aesop's classic "The Boy Who Cried Wolf," Sam's community rallies to help him out. And Sam learns how a big fib can have serious consequences.

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!"

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

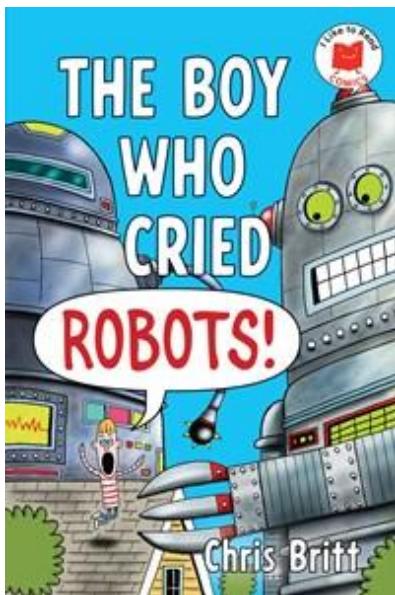
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Contributor Bio

Author/Illustrator Chris Britt's cartoons are syndicated by over two hundred newspapers nationally and internationally, and have appeared in *Newsweek*, *TIME* magazine, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and *USA Today*, as well as aired on CNN's *Inside Politics*, *MSNBC*, *Fox News*, and *ABC's Good Morning America*. He is also the author and illustrator of hilariously funny picture books. Chris lives in Tacoma, Washington.

Author Residence: Tacoma, WA



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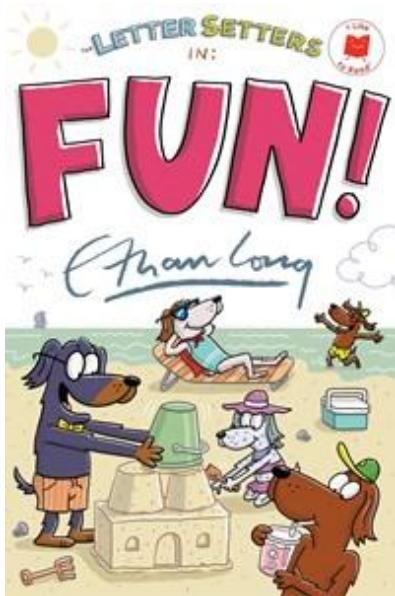
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Author Residence: Tacoma, WA



The Letter Setters in Fun!

Ethan Long

Summary

Learning how to read should be as fun as a day at the beach! Frolick in the sand with four canine friends on a letter-replacement adventure in this phonics-based early reader from Theodor Seuss Geisel Medalist Ethan Long.

The Letter Setters—a lovable group of dynamic dogs—are enjoying a day at the beach, where Pat has D-U-G the perfect sandcastle! But when a huge wave washes the masterpiece away, the plan turns out to be a D-U-D. . . until the setters come up with a new idea to F-I-X this doggone mess. They'll build S-I-X sandcastles, and keep their favorite one! But as their plans and their castles take shape, these curious canines realize that the best castle of all might be one they build together.

In this engaging new early reader series from acclaimed author-illustrator Ethan Long, each story starts out with a three 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.

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.

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

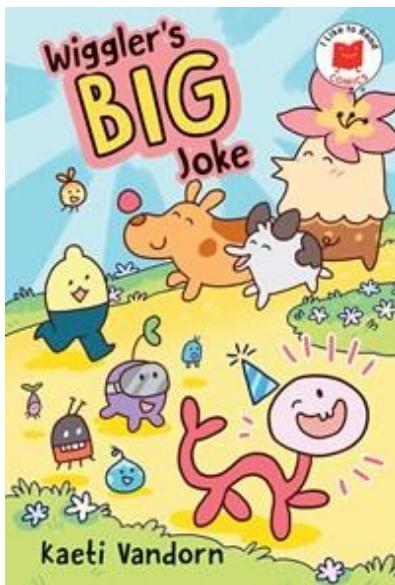
Ethan Long is an artist and animator who has written and illustrated dozens of children's books. His accolades include a Theodor Seuss Geisel Medal for *Up, Tall, and High!* and two daytime Emmy nominations for *Tasty Time With Ze Frank* and *Scribbles and Ink*. Ethan is the author-illustrator of the 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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Hardcover

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Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: I Like to Read

9.3 in H | 6.2 in W | 0.3 in T | 0.5
lb Wt



Wiggler's Big Joke

Kaeti Vandorn

Summary

A jokester worm finds out that friendship means more than just play in this candy-colored young graphic novel by an Eisner-nominated comics artist.

Cutie-pie Wiggler the worm loves a good laugh!

Thanks to a joke book that she took out from the library, her day is all fun and games. Everyone in Small Town enjoys her new jokes . . . until she accidentally hits a nerve and makes her friend Roro the robot angry. But *why*? Did she forget part of the joke? Did she tell the punchline wrong? What could possibly be the problem?

After a nudge from a fluffy, four-legged friend, Wiggler realizes that jokes aren't always helpful, especially when someone is sad or stressed. Wiggler tracks down Roro to make things right—and Roro comes up with an excellent joke of his own. All is well in Small Town once more.

Ultra-adorable characters, visual humor, and simple storytelling at its finest!

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

Contributor Bio

Kaeti Vandorn is an Eisner-nominated children's illustrator and comic artist who likes friendly monsters and playing with color. Kaeti's first two graphic novels, *Crabapple Trouble* and *Monster Friends*, were both indie bestsellers, and *Monster Friends* received starred reviews from Kirkus, School Library Journal, and Publishers Weekly. Her weekly webcomic *Smol Frens* keeps her busy! Find her on Instagram @proteidaes

Author Residence: Vermont

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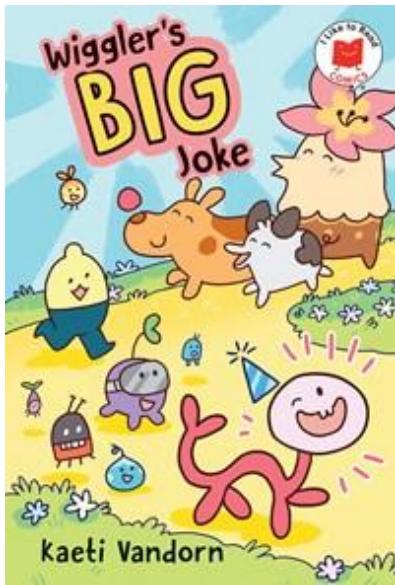
40 Pages

Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Comics & Graphic Novels

Series: I Like to Read Comics

9.3 in H | 6.2 in W | 0.3 in T | 0.5
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Wiggler loves a good laugh!

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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: I Like to Read Comics
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Wt



I Want It!

Paul Meisel

Summary

A girl wants to play with her brother's toys-- and she won't give up!

From two-time Theodor Seuss Geisel Honoree Paul Meisel, this story is perfect for kindergarteners and first graders to read on their own.

I want it!

Mine!

A boy is contentedly playing with his superheroes, cars, and blocks when he notices that his sister has taken his dragon. He wants it back! Now!

Brother and sister struggle with strong emotions, dramatically illustrated--from possessiveness to frustration to anger. But empathy and compassion win out in the end. And we can read the joy on the children's faces.

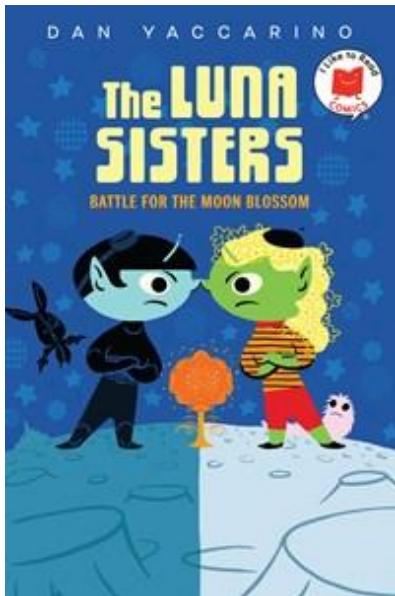
The books in the award-winning I Like to Read® series build vocabulary and promote fluency, which are essential for reading success. Acclaimed author-illustrators--including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors--create original, high-quality books that are fun for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

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

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.

Author Residence: Connecticut



The Luna Sisters Battle for the Moon Blossom

Dan Yaccarino

Summary

Lucy and Nera are opposites BUT . . . they both want the Moon Blossom! Created by an award-winning author-illustrator, this funny comic is perfect for first- and second-grade readers.

Lucy releases her flippy flappy butterflies, a thunderstorm, and her polka dotted elephant. And Nera counters with a grabby claw and a robotic tarantula. But while they're squabbling, a Galactic Green Goat is about to gobble up their Moon Flower. The sisters must come together to outwit the goat and rescue their blossom.

You will also like *The Luna Sisters and their Amazing Luna Fish!*

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: Comics-lovers can now share the fun with their kids, students, siblings, and younger friends who are learning to read! I Like to Read® Comics are perfect for kids who are challenged by or unengaged in reading, kids who love art, and the growing number of young comics fans. Filled with eye-catching art, humor, and terrific stories these comics provide unique reading experiences for growing minds. I Like to Read® Comics, like their award-winning I Like to Read® counterpart, are created by celebrated artists and support reading comprehension to transform children into lifelong readers. We hope that all new readers will say, "I like to read comics!"

Contributor Bio

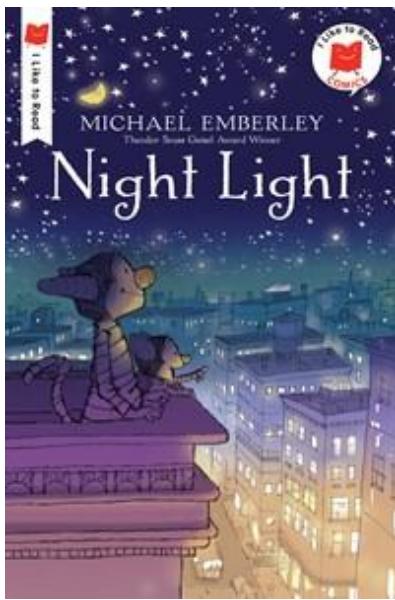
DAN YACCARINO is an author-illustrator who has been named to the Texas Bluebonnet list for *The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau*, Kirkus' Best Children's Book List for *All the Way To America*, The New York Times 10 Best Illustrated List and the *Bologna Ragazzi for Every Friday*. His picture 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

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Series: I Like to Read Comics
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Wt



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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: I Like to Read Comics
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.1 in T | 0.2 lb
Wt

Night Light

Michael Emberley

Summary

Perfect for new readers in the first grade: a comic about a child, a parent, and the magic of a starry night. By Geisel Award-Winner Michael Emberley!

A blackout! Right in the middle of "the last" bedtime story. The child cries. It's too dark! The parent gathers stars from the sky light up the child's room. Now someone else is crying! It's the moon! The parent returns the stars to the sky, and parent and child pack up their blankets and pillows to sleep outside.

New readers can practice phonics reading with the silent letters "g" and "o" in words such as *too*, *night*, *light*, *right*, and *tight*. Children can also read about these characters in *I Did It!* a Theodor Geisel Award Winner and *Let's Go!*, which is on the ALA Best Graphic Novels reading list.

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A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

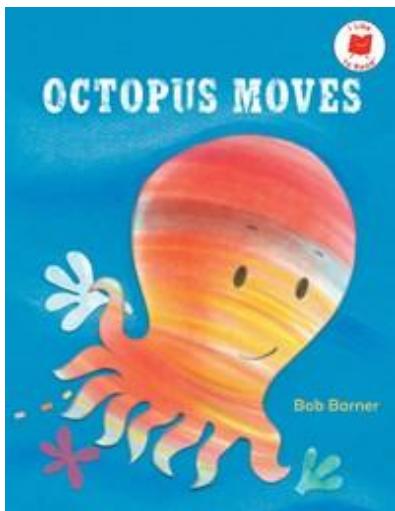
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Contributor Bio

Michael Emberley has been writing and illustrating children's books since 1979. He illustrated the best-selling *It's Perfectly Normal*, by Robie Harris. He is both author and illustrator of Theodor Seuss Geisel Award-winning *I Did It!* and its acclaimed companion, *Let's Go!* He lives in Ireland

Author Residence: Ireland

Author Hometown: Ipswich, MA



Octopus Moves

Bob Barner

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!

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.

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Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: I Like to Read

10 in H | 7.8 in W | 0.1 in T | 0.3
lb Wt



Snap! Crunch! Munch?

Diana Castillo

Summary

A little boy's imagination runs wild during family dinner in this easy reader comic.

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 dinner.

This early reader graphic novel is perfect for 1st and 2nd graders to read on their own. The simple text and story matches everyone's favorite foods with animals, featuring fun onomatopoeia that kids will want to shout outloud.

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

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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: I Like to Read Comics

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Wt

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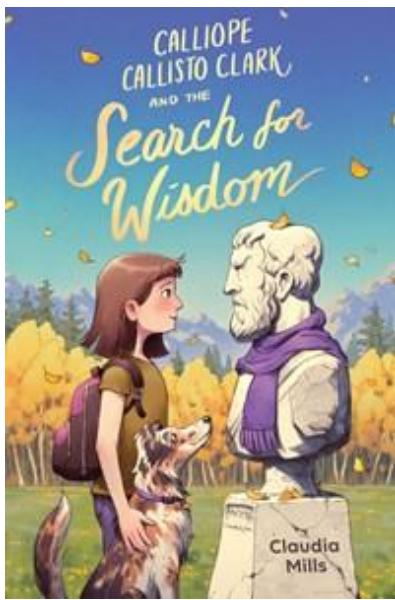
Nominated to the ALA's GNCRT Best Graphic Novels for Children List

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.



Calliope Callisto Clark and the Search for Wisdom

Claudia Mills

Summary

"Difficult" student Callie joins a philosophy club seeking the wisdom she needs to keep her beloved but equally difficult dog in this hilarious, heartfelt middle grade novel for underdogs and dog-lovers alike!

Once Callie (Calliope Callisto Clark) starts saying something, it's hard for her to stop. The opinion gets bigger and bigger, her voice gets louder and louder—and she gets in more and more trouble. She's in trouble with her teacher, who likes order and not Callie. She's in bigger trouble with her Grampy, who blames Callie and her dog (a.k.a. Best Ever Friend) Archie for his ever-rising blood pressure. Then there's the biggest trouble of all... just one more strike, and Callie could lose her beloved Archie forever.

When she turns to Greek philosophy for answers on how to solve her problems, she only gets more questions: What *is* justice? What *is* fairness? And as her problems get bigger, so do her questions: Is it Callie's fault when Grampy has a stroke?

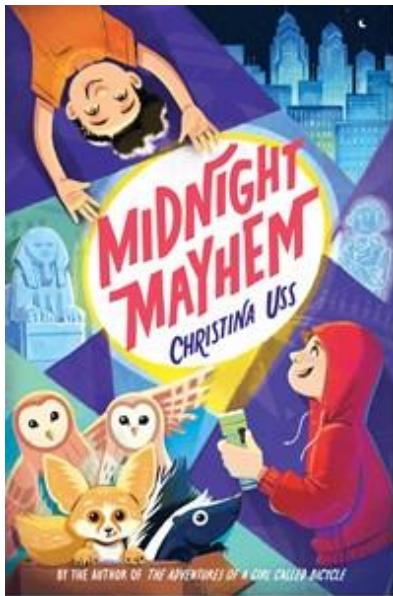
Told in Callie's endearing, energetic voice, *Calliope Callisto Clark and the Search for Wisdom* is sure to speak to any student who's ever been called "disruptive." Acclaimed children's book author and retired philosophy professor Claudia Mills delivers a heartfelt middle grade for misunderstood readers who feel like they're living their own Greek tragedies.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Claudia Mills has written over sixty books for children, including *The Lost Language*, an NCTE Notable Verse Novel, a Charlotte Huck Recommended Book, A Mighty Girl Best Book of the Year, and A Bulletin for the Center of Children's Books Blue Ribbon Book. Her most recent book, *The Last Apple Tree*, received a starred review in *Kirkus Reviews*. She is a recipient of the Kerlan Award for her contribution to children's literature. She was a professor of philosophy for more than two decades at the University of Colorado. She lives in Boulder, Colorado. Visit her at claudiamillsauthor.com.

Author Hometown: Boulder, CO



Midnight Mayhem

Christina Uss

Summary

**Kaz Jakobsen can't sleep.
Ever again.**

Kaz Jakobsen knows things will never be the same after his family's sudden move to Philadelphia. He'll have to make new friends, which isn't his strong suit. But an even bigger change arrives at a restaurant where he orders a bagel sandwich. Kaz eats a potent combo of the world's greenest mustard and rootiest rootbeer and loses his ability to sleep.

Scientifically, brain + no sleep = kablammo. The longest a human insomniac has gone without sleep is eleven days. What will happen to Kaz without sleep for more than seventy years? How will he survive the lonely boredom?

Kaz luckily meets Floyd, a fellow non-sleeping kid, at a sleep study lab. Floyd thinks being sleepless is a super-power, a chance to try a million new things. He takes Kaz on madcap midnight adventures, introducing him to all the things kids are allowed to do at night in Philadelphia. And a few things they aren't. The bad news: his ideas always seem to lead to mayhem.

Kaz wants to keep Floyd's friendship but lose the mayhem. When he learns there's an antidote to a lifetime awake, he has a tough choice to make. If Kaz cures his sleeplessness, will he lose the best friend he's ever had?

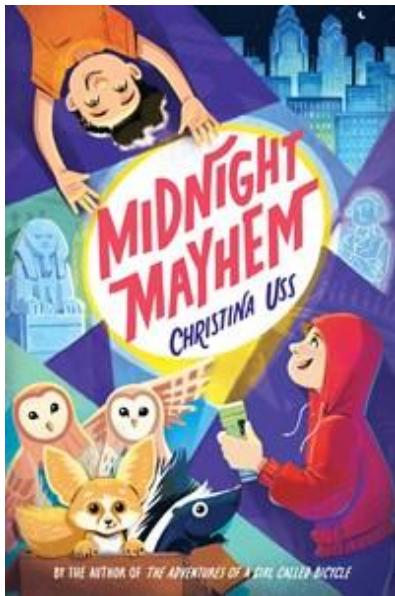
Contributor Bio

Christina Uss' first novel, *The Adventures of a Girl Called Bicycle*, was selected for the Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List, Maine Student Book Award list, Vermont's Dorothy Canfield Fisher list and was a Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year. It received starred reviews from Shelf Awareness, Booklist, Kirkus Reviews and Publisher's Weekly. Christina lives in East Longmeadow MA. Christina works at a library as a circulation supervisor

Author Residence: East Longmeadow MA

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Juvenile Fiction / Action & Adventure
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



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176 Pages
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Juvenile Fiction / Action & Adventure
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Mystery in the Grand Canyon

Dusti Bowling, Beth Hughes

Summary

***The Secret Life of Pets* meets *Ranger in Time* in this humorous, historic, and mildly haunted illustrated chapter book series featuring a service dog who thinks he's a knight, tasked with chasing the unsolved ghost stories of the Southwest.**

Edmund, a goldendoodle and seizure-alert dog of esteemed lineage (at least according to him) is destined for life in a palace. Buckingham Palace, to be precise.

He is an expert at all things British—from tasty kidney pies to the cozy mysteries of Jessica Fletcher—and thus he believes he is meant to be a Royal Guard, serving the King of England.

But when Edmund's beloved owner dies, he gets adopted by a veteran called Wild West Willy, an aspiring ghosthunter. Willy aims to travel to the Grand Canyon, where he'll uncover the truth behind the disappearance of a couple who went missing in 1928. Little does Willy know that Edmund can actually see ghosts!

Should Edmund help out and solve the mystery, even though it isn't quite as grand as serving in the Royal Guard? Maybe his destiny is closer to home than he realized. . . .

From the award-winning, bestselling author of *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* comes a funny new chapter book series that captures the heartwarming bond between man and his best friend—even when his best friend is a bit delusional.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Dusti Bowling is the award-winning, *Publishers Weekly* bestselling author of several middle grade and chapter books. Her books have garnered fifteen starred reviews and have won multiple awards including the Reading the West Award, the Sakura Medal, a Golden Kite Honor, the William Allen White Children's Book Award, and have been nominated for over thirty state awards (having won several). Her books are Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selections and have been named best books of the year by the Chicago Public Library, Kirkus, Bank Street College of Education, A Mighty Girl, Shelf Awareness, and many more. She lives in Arizona with her family.

Author Residence: Eager, AZ

Beth Hughes is an illustrator and concept artist who loves bright colors and silly animals. Based in the Midwest, most of their days are spent working on projects from picture books to animated television shows (when their dog and cat aren't demanding their attention!).



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Dusti Bowling, Beth Hughes

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Author Residence: Eager, AZ

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Serendipity

Gabbie Benda

Summary

Discover what happens when the luckiest kid in the world becomes extraordinarily *unlucky* in this funny, friendship-driven story.

Serendipity is your classic overachiever. She's class president, lead in the school play, and star of the basketball team. She's also incredibly lucky, like, *wins everything all the time* lucky.

Until a mishap at the town carnival convinces Serendipity her luck has run out. She's definitely not anxious, disorganized, or spread too thin. Nope, she's *cursed*. And she'll have to find a way to reverse it before she lets everyone down.

Hilariously charming and illustrated in sugar pink hues, this graphic novel is a treat for kids who love middle school dramas and adorable, if impulsive characters. It's a perfect story for overstressed overachievers looking for a warm reminder that stepping back doesn't mean stepping down. In fact, sharing the spotlight with good friends is perhaps the luckiest thing of all.

Contributor Bio

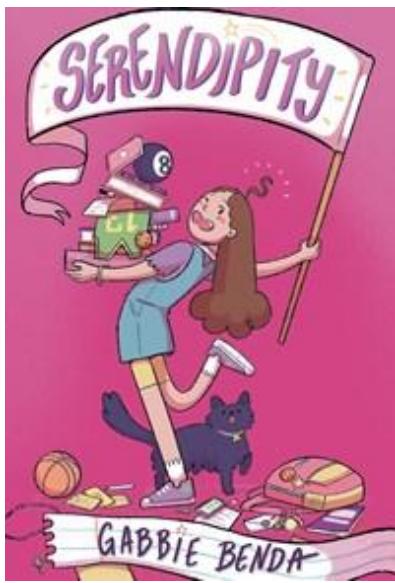
Gabbie Benda earned a degree in Communication Arts from VCUarts with a focus on children's illustration and comics. After over a decade as a camp counselor and art teacher, Gabbie is well versed in the art of making kids of all ages smile. SERENDIPITY is her debut. She lives in Richmond, Virginia.

Author Residence: Richmond, Virginia

Author Hometown: Kent, Ohio

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Serendipity

Gabbie Benda

Summary

Discover what happens when the luckiest kid in the world becomes extraordinarily *unlucky* in this funny, friendship-driven story.

Serendipity is your classic overachiever. She's class president, lead in the school play, and star of the basketball team. She's also incredibly lucky, like, *wins everything all the time* lucky.

Until a mishap at the town carnival convinces Serendipity her luck has run out. She's definitely not anxious, disorganized, or spread too thin. Nope, she's *cursed*. And she'll have to find a way to reverse it before she lets everyone down.

Hilariously charming and illustrated in sugar pink hues, this graphic novel is a treat for kids who love middle school dramas and adorable, if impulsive characters. It's a perfect story for overstressed overachievers looking for a warm reminder that stepping back doesn't mean stepping down. In fact, sharing the spotlight with good friends is perhaps the luckiest thing of all.

Contributor Bio

Gabbie Benda earned a degree in Communication Arts from VCUarts with a focus on children's illustration and comics. After over a decade as a camp counselor and art teacher, Gabbie is well versed in the art of making kids of all ages smile. SERENDIPITY is her debut. She lives in Richmond, Virginia.

Author Residence: Richmond, Virginia

Author Hometown: Kent, Ohio

Holiday House
9780823462902
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$14.99
Trade Paperback

224 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
8 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

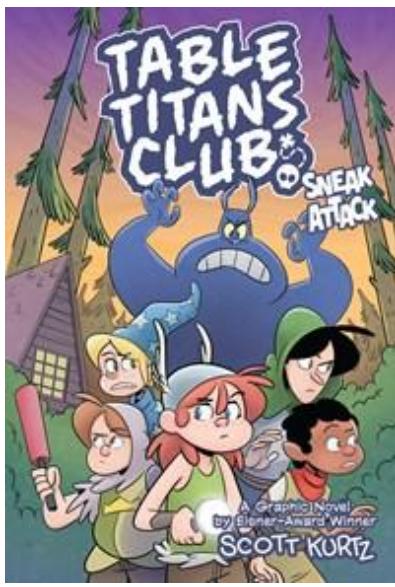


Table Titans Club: Sneak Attack

Scott Kurtz

Summary

Ready your armor, sword, and sleeping bag—the Table Titans are headed to summer camp! Come along for the adventure in this graphic novel series about a middle school Dungeon & Dragons club from Eisner and Harvey award-winning cartoonist Scott Kurtz.

Table Titans Club members Val, Kate, Alan, Andrew, and Darius are psyched to spend the summer at Camp Owl Care. At this live-action roleplay paradise, the gang will work together to overcome challenges, unravel riddles, and safely swash-buckle their foes. Nothing the Table Titans can't handle together!

. . . Or not? The club arrives and learns that they've been randomly sorted into houses for the camp LARP quest. They must compete against their fellow Titans for reward and renown!

As the camp-wide feud heats up, it seems like the Titans will have to make a choice: sacrifice their houses' standings, or say goodbye to their tight-knit friendship. Will the Table Titans Club survive the summer?

Set in the same universe as the Eisner Award-winning webcomic *PvP*, Scott Kurtz's artwork blends zany, fantastical visuals with slice-of-life humor. For fans of fantasy and coming of age stories alike, Table Titans Club perfectly captures the heart of tween friendships.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Scott Kurtz is the Eisner and Harvey Award-winning cartoonist who helped pioneer webcomics with his daily feature, *PvP*. He is also the author of the middle grade graphic novel *Table Titans Club*, which was a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection and received a starred review from *Booklist*. Scott can be found in the Pacific Northwest, where he occasionally leaves his studio to enjoy the dog park or visit his family.

Author Residence: Seattle, WA

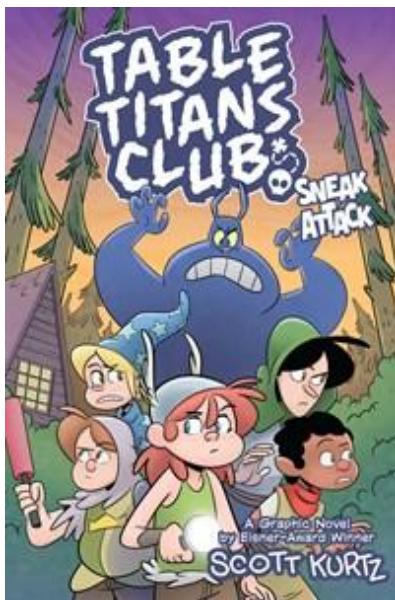


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. . . Or not? The club arrives and learns that they've been randomly sorted into houses for the camp LARP quest. They must compete against their fellow Titans for reward and renown! To make this nightmare worse, Alan fully embraces the rivalry and becomes determined to crush his friends' teams—even if that means cheating.

As the camp-wide feud heats up, it seems like the Titans will have to make a choice: sacrifice their houses' standings, or say goodbye to their tight-knit friendship. The final quest approaches . . . Will Val lead her team to victory? And more importantly, will the Table Titans Club survive the summer?

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Contributor Bio

Scott Kurtz is the Eisner and Harvey award-winning cartoonist who helped pioneer webcomics with his daily feature, *PvP* which debuted in May of 1998. Since then, Scott has gone on to produce podcasts, animated series, and live roleplaying events, as well as launching the adventure graphic novel series Table Titans. In 2020 Scott started a diary comic called *MORT* which chronicled his time as a primary caregiver for his ailing father. Scott can be found hiding from the coronavirus in the Pacific Northwest but occasionally leaves his studio to enjoy the dog park or visit his family.

Author Residence: Seattle, WA

Holiday House
978082346110

Pub Date: 3/10/2026

On Sale Date: 3/10/2026

\$14.99

Trade Paperback

224 Pages

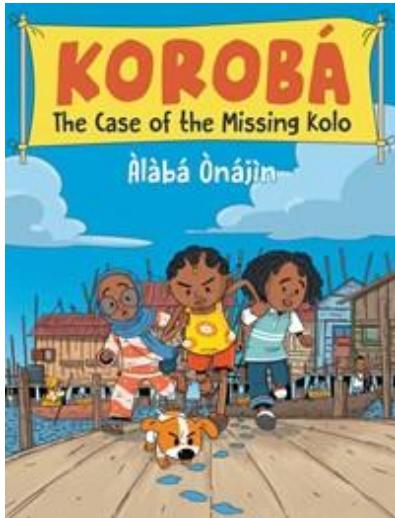
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7

Juvenile Fiction / Comics &

Graphic Novels

Series: Table Titans Club

9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



The Case of the Missing Kolo

Àlábá Ònájin

Summary

A charismatic young sleuth takes on a case close to home in this new graphic novel series set in a vibrant African community.

Ten-year-old Korobá knows everyone in Makoko, the Nigerian fishing village where she lives.

She knows her way up and down the bright, colorful waterways, knows where to sell fried shrimp, and knows what to look for at the crowded daily market. Makoko is her playground, and she roams free with her best friends, Saidat and Joba, and her adorable dog, Popi.

The last thing Korobá would expect in Makoko is a thief. Yet Saidat's wooden piggy bank—her Kolo—has been stolen. The children of Makoko save coins in their Kolo all year long, waiting to spend their money at the annual harvest festival. Saidat saved and saved, but now she will have nothing. It's not fair!

Korobá knows what good detectives do... (sort of?). Should the primary suspect be Saidat's grumpy cousin, visiting on vacation? Or could it be the village carpenter, who has been doing some work on Saidat's house? It's up to Detective Korobá to catch the thief and find the missing Kolo before Breaking Day!

Buckle up, budding mystery fans... It's time to join Korobá and friends on their thrilling chase for the culprit. With rich, detailed illustrations—featuring some very important clues—that bring Makoko to life, this one-of-a-kind graphic novel series is a modern day *Tintin* meets *Encyclopedia Brown*.

Contributor Bio

Àlábá Ònájin is the Nigerian-born author/illustrator of *Waaa Waaa Goes Tawa!*, as well as multiple collaborations with UNESCO, portraying the lives of prominent African women. Ònájin also illustrated an adult graphic novel, *On Ajayi Crowther Street*, which was a *Publishers Weekly* Graphic Novel Critics Poll Honorable Mention and a *GQ* Best New Book. *Korobá: The Case of the Missing Kolo* is his first graphic novel for children.

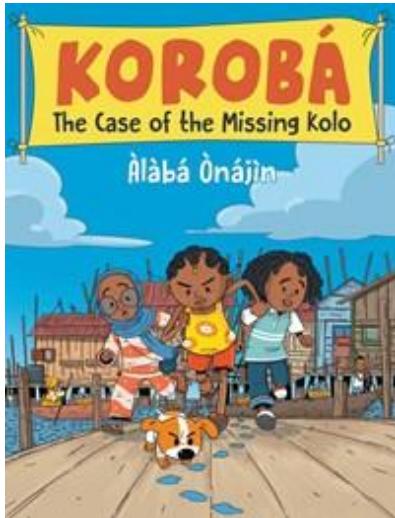
Author Residence: United Kingdom

Author Hometown: Nigeria

Holiday House
9780823459131
Pub Date: 2/24/2026
On Sale Date: 2/24/2026
\$24.99
Hardcover

144 Pages
Ages 7 to 11, Grades 2 to 6
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: Korobá

8.5 in H | 6.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Holiday House
9780823462513
Pub Date: 2/24/2026
On Sale Date: 2/24/2026
\$14.99
Trade Paperback

144 Pages
Ages 7 to 11, Grades 2 to 6
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: Korobá
8.5 in H | 6.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

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Author Residence: United Kingdom

Author Hometown: Nigeria



The Star of Moon Village

Jennifer Ann Richter

Summary

Even in outer space there are frenemies.

Priscilla Cobb has spent her whole life dreaming of space. The underground scientific labs on the Moon are the stuff of legend. So when an international student research voyage to the Moon is announced, Priscilla trains day in and day out.

But as Priscilla discovers, research will not be the priority of the trip. In fact, the whole trip starts to feel like a vacation for the ultrarich and famous. And when a surprise secret guest is revealed (someone Priscilla hoped to never cross paths with again), she decides enough is enough. It's time for science to fight back.

Combining classic middle school growing pains with a near-future space setting, *The Star of Moon Village* is a smart and empathetic read perfect for fans of Stacy McAnulty's *The Miscalculations of Lightning*, Jennifer L. Holm's *The Lion of Mars*, and Jasmine Warga's *A Rover's Story*.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Jennifer Ann Richter is a poet, novelist, short story writer, birder, and stargazer. Jennifer's works for children have appeared in *Fun for Kidz*, *Shine Brightly*, *Balloons Lit. Journal*, *Cricket*, and *Spaceports & Spidersilk*. Her YA story "Partings" won honorable mention in the 2020 Writer's Digest Annual Writing Competition. Her debut middle grade novel *Bird Nerd* was published by Holiday House. She lives in Delaware.

Author Residence: Milford, DE

Author Hometown: Philadelphia, PA

Holiday House
9780823456574
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$17.99
Hardcover

272 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Science Fiction
8.6 in H | 5.8 in W | 0.9 in T | 0.8
lb Wt



Holiday House
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Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

272 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Science Fiction
8.2 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.7 in T | 0.5
lb Wt

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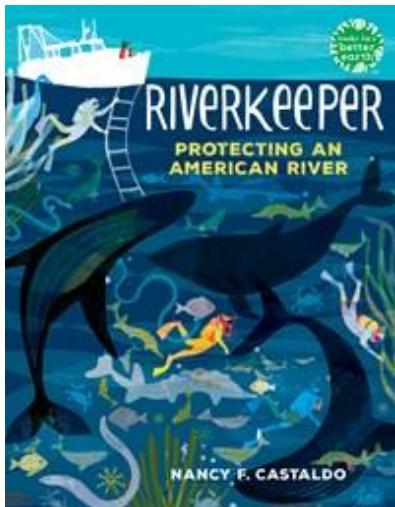
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

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Author Residence: Milford, DE

Author Hometown: Philadelphia, PA



Riverkeeper

Protecting an American River

Nancy Castaldo

Summary

Dive headfirst into the history of environmental activism in the Hudson River watershed and learn how you can help organizations like Riverkeeper protect clean water around the globe!

Every inch of the United States is in a river's watershed. But in 1966, one of our most important watersheds was dying. Dead fish washed up on the Hudson River's shores, and the once-clear water reeked of oil. With too much pollution to support human or animal life, America's "First River" was in too deep—until a Riverkeeper, a pioneering group of environmental activists, fought to get rivers around the globe out of troubled waters.

Holiday House
9780823462759
Pub Date: 3/17/2026
On Sale Date: 3/17/2026
\$14.99
Trade Paperback

128 Pages
Ages 10 And Up, Grades 5 And Up
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature
9 in H | 7 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Nonfiction pro Nancy Castaldo showcases Riverkeeper's achievements and the intersection of science and activism. With forty striking photographs and profiles of prominent water protectors, this resource-packed text is both a deep-dive into the history of the environmental movement and a guidebook for how individuals and communities can shape its future.

- Plunge into the dirty history of America's "First River" and learn how one of America's first environmental movements changed the course of activism around the world.
- Meet trailblazers like Tracy Brown, the first female Riverkeeper, whose clean water advocacy offers a blueprint for generations of future scientists.
- Learn about groundbreaking laws like the Clean Water Act, and how the hard work of activists—including people like you—has led to modern-day legislation that will help to heal our waterways for decades to come.
- Discover surprising (and surprisingly effective!) methods for ecological conservation, like granting legal personhood to bodies of water.
- Join the movement with engaging and accessible suggestions for cleaning up your local river, whether you're finding your local river sweep, volunteering as a water tester, or small things you can do at home!
- Explore the outdoors! Complete with a list of fun Hudson River activities and annual events all around the United States, this text celebrates rivers wherever they flow—and invites you to join in on the party!

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Series Overview: A Books for a Better Earth™ Title

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

Nancy Castaldo has written award-winning books about our planet for over 20 years from Chatham, NY in New York's Hudson Valley. Her love of reading and writing outdoors began in her childhood, when she wasn't searching for frogs, turtles, and salamanders, and climbing trees. Her curiosity led her to study science. As an environmental educator, Nancy combined all of those interests. She still enjoys spending her time exploring in the wild as she did while researching over two dozen books and many articles. Nancy writes to inform, inspire, and empower her readers about the world around them. She is represented by Jennifer Laughran of Andrea Brown Literary.

Author Residence: Chatham, NY



Where No Shadow Stays

Sara Hashem

Summary

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Southern California



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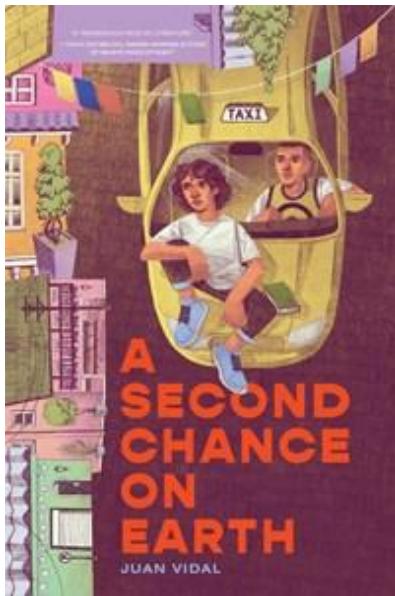
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A Second Chance on Earth

Juan Vidal

Summary

A father, a friend, and a favorite book help a teen boy understand love and loss in this moving and vivid YA novel in verse.

Have you ever encountered a book that KO'd you, Iron Mike Tyson style? One that hit you square in the face and heart like some abracadabra casting a hex from an unknown planet?

For sixteen-year-old poet and b-baller Marcos Cadena, that book is the beat-up copy of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* he finds among his late father's possessions after Papi is killed in an accident.

Marcos' papi has always loomed large in his eyes. So, when Marcos travels to his parents' childhood home of Cartagena, Colombia to spread Papi's ashes, he brings his father's book with him, convinced that Gabriel García Márquez's masterpiece holds the key to understanding Papi's life and accepting his death.

In Cartagena, Marcos befriends eighteen-year-old Camilo, a taxi driver and fellow García Márquez fan who appoints himself Marcos' unofficial tour guide. Together, the two boys explore the landscape of Cartagena, from the picturesque streets of Old Town to the poor neighborhood where Camilo grew up. But when Camilo reveals a troubling secret from his past, Marcos must ask himself whether everyone deserves a second chance.

Woven through with themes of friendship, family, and forgiveness, this poignant novel in verse is also a love letter to Colombia and to the books of Gabriel García Márquez.

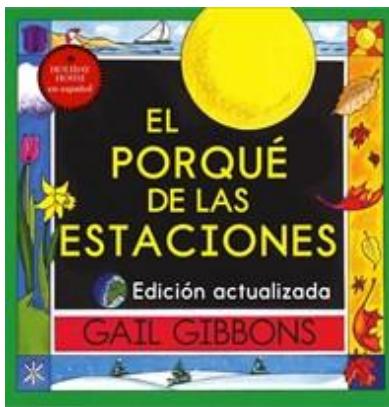
Contributor Bio

Juan Vidal is the author of the memoir *Rap Dad*, which explores father-son dynamics and Latino masculinity through the lens of hip-hop culture. *A Second Chance on Earth* is his YA debut.

Author Residence: Atlanta, GA

Holiday House
9780823462605
Pub Date: 4/21/2026
On Sale Date: 4/21/2026
\$12.99
Trade Paperback

224 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Hispanic & Latino
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



El porqué de las estaciones

Gail Gibbons

Summary

Cold winters, hot summers--year after year the seasons repeat themselves. But what causes them? This accessible elementary introduction to the science behind seasonal weather from esteemed creator Gail Gibbons is now available in Spanish!

Why is there winter in the Southern Hemisphere at the same time there is summer in the Northern Hemisphere? In summertime, why is it still light out in the evening? With simple Spanish vocabulary appropriate for young readers, this book introduces young readers to the four seasons and explains why they change throughout the year.

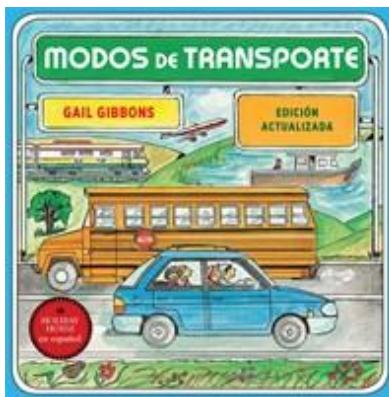
Newly revised and vetted by experts, this new Spanish translation, based on the most recently updated edition of *The Reasons for Seasons*, introduces the solstices, the equinoxes, and the tilt in Earth's axis that causes them, and gives examples of what each season is like across the globe from pole to pole. Clear, simple diagrams of the earth's orbit are accompanied by accessible explanations.

Fascinating and easy to understand, this is a perfect introduction to seasons, Earth's orbit, and axial tilt. Different effects on different parts of the world are included, illustrating the difference in climate between the equator, the northern and southern hemispheres, and the polar regions.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Corinth, VT



Holiday House
9780823462438
Pub Date: 4/21/2026
On Sale Date: 4/21/2026
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction
/ Transportation
10 in H | 9.9 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Medios de transporte

Cómo se traslada la gente

Gail Gibbons

Summary

Gail Gibbons takes readers over land, sea, and air in this fascinating introduction to diverse methods of transportation, now available in Spanish!

From cars and trains to planes and boats, people all around the world have developed diverse means and methods of travel. In this fascinating exploration of transportation, Gail Gibbons employs her signature, colorful artwork and accessible text to explain transportation choices to young readers. Vehicles of many kinds are clearly detailed, as are transportation-related facts and concepts such as carpooling and commuting. For young readers on the go, this book is a must-have!

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Author Residence: Corinth, VT



Una segunda oportunidad sobre la tierra

Juan Vidal

Summary

A father, a friend, and a favorite book help a teen boy understand love and loss in this moving and vivid YA novel in verse, now available in Spanish.

Have you ever encountered a book that turned your world upside-down? For sixteen-year-old poet and b-baller Marcos Cadena, that book is the beat-up copy of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* he finds among his late father's possessions after Papi is killed in an accident.

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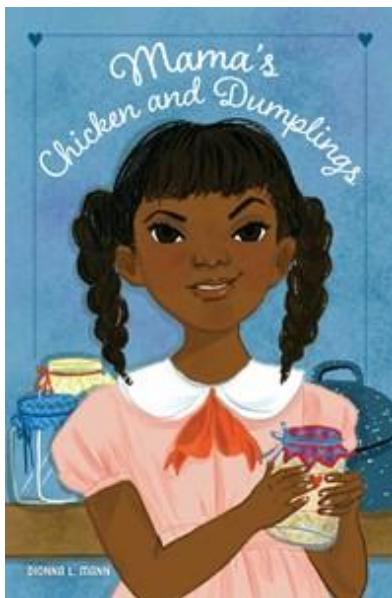
Woven through with themes of friendship, family, and forgiveness, this beautiful Spanish translation of Juan Vidal's acclaimed novel in verse is also a love letter to Colombia and to the books of Gabriel García Márquez.

Contributor Bio

Juan Vidal is the author of the memoir *Rap Dad*, which explores father-son dynamics and Latino masculinity through the lens of hip-hop culture. *A Second Chance on Earth* is his YA debut.

Author Residence: Kennesaw, GA

Author Hometown: Miami, FL



Mama's Chicken and Dumplings

Dionna L. Mann

Summary

Growing up in segregated 1930's Charlottesville, ten-year-old Allie is determined to find a man for her mama to marry— but not just any man will do!

Allie's life with Mama isn't bad, but she knows it could be better if Mama would find someone to marry. Allie's worst enemy, her NOT-friend Gwen, has a daddy, and Allie wants someone like that—someone to fix things when they break, someone who likes to sing, and has a kind-smile.

So Allie makes a plan—her super secret Man-For-Mama plan. She has a list of candidates with a clear top choice: Mr. Johnson, who owns the antique store. Best of all, Mr. Johnson went to school with Mama, and he wants to get reacquainted! The battle's half won, and Allie is sure that when he tries Mama's yummy chicken and dumplings, he'll be head over heels.

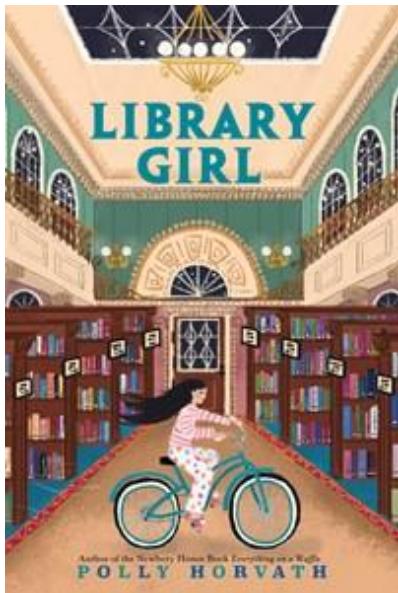
But someone else is interested in Mama: Mr. Coles, Allie's teacher, who's also Gwen's uncle! Mama can't marry him—no way is Allie going to be related to Gwen. On top of it all, Allie's best friend is moving to Chicago; Allie keeps getting in trouble; and everyone seems to think she's jealous of Gwen, for some reason. Nothing is going how she planned, but Allie is determined to get things back on track toward the life she knows she and Mama both deserve. . . even if Mama doesn't agree yet.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Dionna L. Mann is an independent researcher and resident of Virginia who loves uncovering human-interest stories hidden within African-American history. As a work for hire author, she's written for Scholastic Press, Lerner, and Capstone, among others. This is her debut novel. Visit her at dionnalmann.com.

Author Residence: Charlottesville, VA



Library Girl

Polly Horvath

Summary

After living in the public library for the last eleven years, Essie must learn to adapt to a world that's not as perfect as the stories she's grown up with in this heartfelt middle grade novel from Newbery Honor author Polly Horvath.

Essie has grown up in the public library, raised in secret by the four librarians who found her abandoned as a baby in the children's department. With four mothers and miles of books to read, Essie has always been very happy living there.

But now that she is eleven, Essie longs for a little more freedom . . . and maybe a friend her own age. She seems to get her wish when her moms let her go by herself to the mall. On her second trip there, she meets G.E., a mysterious boy who looks so much like her she can't help but think they may be twins. Maybe he was raised by four dads in the appliance section of the department store. Maybe his story is intertwined with hers, and their happy ending is as one big family. But as she gets to know G.E. better, she learns that nothing is as simple as it seems in her stories—not even her own past.

With her signature warmth and offbeat humor, Newbery Honor author Polly Horvath invites book lovers to sit back in their own library nooks and check out a whimsical adventure perfect for readers trying to find their place in the world.

Contributor Bio

Polly Horvath has written many books for children, including *Everything on a Waffle*, a Newbery Honor Book, *The Canning Season*, a National Book Award winner, *The Trolls*, a National Book Award finalist, and *Pine Island Home* and *Pine Island Visitors*. She lives in British Columbia with her family. Visit her at www.PollyHorvath.com.

Author Residence: Metchosin, British Columbia

Author Hometown: Kalamazoo, MI

Margaret Ferguson Books
9780823462834

Pub Date: 4/14/2026

On Sale Date: 4/14/2026

\$10.99

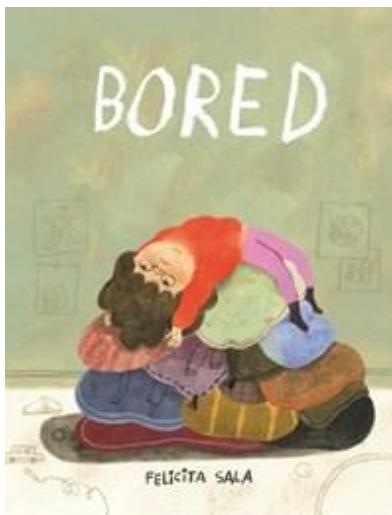
Trade Paperback

256 Pages

Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7

Juvenile Fiction / Family

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Bored

Felicita Sala

Summary

Utter boredom leads one imaginative girl to inspiration in this clever story from much-loved creator Felicita Sala.

Rita is bored. So, so, so bored.

She's tried stretching her body across her bedroom, side-eyeing herself in the mirror, stomping her feet and swinging her arms. Time drags on, and there she remains: catatonic with boredom.

In her tragic and weakened state, her mind drifts to the beginning of a daydream. What if all the bored people in the world gathered together and got onto a bus? What if the boredom filled them up like balloons, with tiny heads and arms sticking out? What if they floated into the sky, bobbing along until they each spied something exciting enough to make them toot the boredom out?

By the time Rita's mother calls her for dinner, she's very, very busy.

Anyone who's ever been bored will find catharsis in Rita's plight. As all creative people eventually learn, boredom can be the best launchpad to great ideas. Felicita Sala's expressive, inviting illustrations and sly storytelling are a guaranteed antidote to the doldrums.

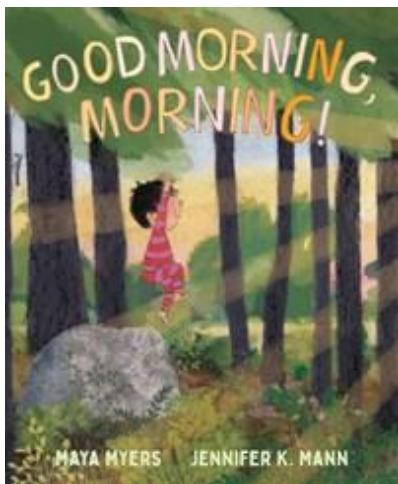
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Felicita Sala is an author and self-taught illustrator. Her titles include *If You Run Out of Words*, *What's Cooking at 10 Garden Street?*, *What's Cooking in Floverville?*, and *Lunch at 10 Pomegranate Street*, which has been translated into ten languages. She is the illustrator of the Society of Illustrators Gold Medal book *As Night Falls* by Donna Napoli, the New York Times/New York Public Library Best Illustrated Children's Book *She Made a Monster* by Lynn Fulton, and many others. She is a recipient of the Premio Andersen (the Andersen Prize). Raised in Perth, Australia, she lives in Rome, where she was born.

Author Residence: Rome, Italy

Author Hometown: Rome, Italy and Perth, Australia



Good Morning, Morning!

Maya Myers, Jennifer K. Mann

Summary

A child takes in meditative time outdoors before dawn— until it's time to shout “Good morning!” to the sun.

Just before daybreak, a child steps outside to plant warm feet on the cool ground.

Though it's quiet, there's so much sensory magic to see and feel and hear: lacy slug trails on the porch; spiderwebs rippling in the grass; birdsong in the air; wet dew and spiky pine needles to walk through in the woods beyond the yard.

Expertly modeling mindfulness, the child breathes in the still-sleepy world, taking in every little detail. But when the sun's warm rays arrive, it's time to run and jump and cartwheel! **GOOD MORNING, MORNING!**

Good Morning, Morning! is a perfect read-aloud for restless youngsters learning to self-soothe, and may well serve families as a new ritual to ease chaotic mornings. The joyous shout of the ending will bring the energy right back up, with a new focus toward the natural wonders all around us.

Contributor Bio

Maya Myers writes books for kids and edits books for kids and adults. Maya is a former kindergarten teacher who loves cooking, gardening, board games, and (surprise!) reading. She is the author of *Not Little* and *Not Perfect*, both illustrated by Hyewon Yum. She lives in Charlotte, North Carolina, with her husband Matt Myers, three kids, six chickens, and a twenty-three-pound cat.

Author Residence: Charlotte, NC

Author Hometown: Maine

Jennifer K. Mann is a prolific author and illustrator of books for children. Her book *The Camping Trip* received four starred reviews and was named an ALSC Notable Book, a Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year, and an SCBWI Golden Kite Award finalist, among many other honors; she is also the illustrator of Alison James's *Maple and Rosemary* and Curtis Manley's *Climbing the Volcano*. She resides on the Puget Sound's Bainbridge Island with her husband, two children, six chickens, a cat and a dog.

Illustrator Residence: Bainbridge Island, WA

Neal Porter Books

9780823458318

Pub Date: 4/7/2026

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\$18.99

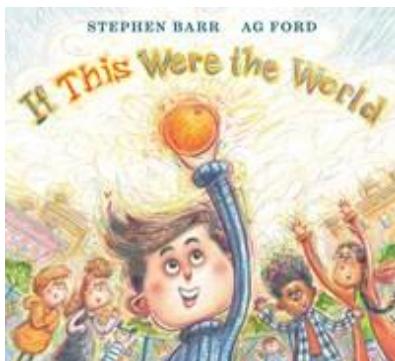
Hardcover

40 Pages

Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Concepts

11 in H | 9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



If This Were the World

Stephen Barr, AG Ford

Summary

Recess is wholly transformed when Omeed holds up an orange and asks one question: "What if this were the world?"

Ms. Lee's class had come perilously close to running out of games, but the hunt for the best world gains steam right away. The orange is tasty, but too small to share. A dodgeball world can be punted to outer space by a mean older kid. A maple tree isn't portable enough.

Imaginations have never been so alive. But still no perfect world turns up, and the kids' search is leaving a trail of litter and destruction behind them. Maybe there really is only one world that ticks all the boxes, only one world where everyone fits and can get what they need... and maybe it's time to treat it a little better.

With a cast of big personalities and a hearty helping of witty banter, *If This Were the World* reads like the very best recess, with a well-earned nod to our planet and the work of protecting it.

Contributor Bio

Stephen Barr grew up a few miles from Disneyland in Southern California, and then grew up a lot more when he moved to New York City out of college. A longtime literary agent, he made his picture book debut with *The Upside Down Hat*, which *The New York Times* named a best illustrated book of the year. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife, son, and daughter.

Author Residence: Brooklyn, NY

Author Hometown: Southern California

AG Ford is a *New York Times* bestselling children's book illustrator and recipient of two NAACP Image Awards. Ford has illustrated picture books for Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Sharon Robinson, Ilyasah Shabazz, Martin Luther King III, Nick Cannon, Jonah Winter, The Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and many others. Raised in Dallas, He now lives in Frisco, Texas with his lovely wife Brandy and their two sons Maddox & Carter.

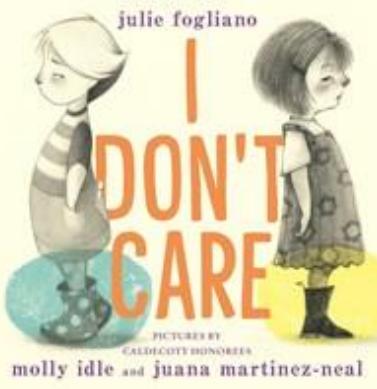
Illustrator Residence: Frisco, TX

Illustrator Hometown: Dallas, TX

Neal Porter Books
9780823457199

Pub Date: 2/17/2026
On Sale Date: 2/17/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Imagination & Play
9.3 in H | 10.3 in W | 0.4 in T |
0.9 lb Wt



I Don't Care

Julie Fogliano, Molly Idle, Juana Martinez-Neal

Summary

Two Caldecott honorees—and real-life best friends—team up to illustrate a story of friendship from bestselling author Julie Fogliano.

Like the two stars of this story, illustrators Molly Idle and Juana Martinez-Neal know that differences only make a good friendship stronger. In this bouncy, rhyming story, two best friends think about all the little things that don't matter—and the big things that really, really do.

With each artist designing and drawing one character, and collaborating on the scenery and details, Molly Idle and Juana Martinez-Neal transformed this sweet story into a celebration of friendship—including their own—and a unique artistic vision.

Working remotely, they swapped drawings across the country, using a limited palette of teal and yellow over graphite. As artwork passed back and forth between their mailboxes, childhood versions of each artist came to life and came together on the page into one unified creation.

Award-winning author Julie Fogliano's rhythmic rhymes bring it all together, expressing the unconditional love any best friend can relate to.

Contributor Bio

Julie Fogliano is the New York Times bestselling author of, among other titles, *And Then It's Spring* and *If You Want to See a Whale*, as well as *Just in Case You Want to Fly*, illustrated by Christian Robinson. Recipient of the 2013 the Ezra Jack Keats award and two Boston Globe-Horn Book Honors, her books have been translated into more than ten languages. Julie lives in the Hudson Valley with her husband and three children.

Author Residence: Hudson Valley, NY

Molly Idle's work as an author-illustrator includes the Caldecott Honor Book *Flora and the Flamingo*, *Flora and the Penguin*, *Flora and the Peacocks*, *Flora and the Chicks*, *Flora and the Ostrich*, and *Tea Rex*, *Camp Rex*, *Sea Rex*, and *Santa Rex*, among other books, including *Pearl*, an original fable about a mermaid who learns the power of one small act. She lives with her family in Arizona, and invites you to visit her at idleillustration.com.

Juana Martinez-Neal is the author and illustrator of the Caldecott Honor winning book *Alma and How She Got Her Name*. She also illustrated *La Princesa and the Pea* by Susan Middleton Elya, for which she won a Pura Belpré Illustrator Award, *Babymoon* by Hayley Barrett, *Swashby and the Sea* by Beth Ferry, and *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story* by Kevin Noble Maillard, which won a Robert F. Sibert Medal. Juana Martinez-Neal lives in Connecticut with her family. Visit her online at www.juanamartinezneal.com.

Illustrator Residence: Arizona and Connecticut

Neal Porter Books

9780823462841

Pub Date: 4/28/2026

On Sale Date: 4/28/2026

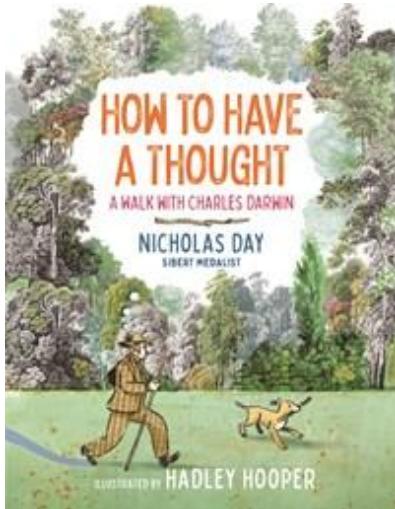
\$8.99

Trade Paperback

40 Pages

Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes

9.5 in H | 9.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



How to Have a Thought

A Walk with Charles Darwin

Nicholas Day, Hadley Hooper

Summary

Take a walk with Charles Darwin in this electrifying new picture book from Sibert Medalist Nicholas Day.

How do you work through a complicated idea, solve a tricky problem, or make a big discovery? Charles Darwin had a lot of ways to do it. He paced in circles and hit rocks with a stick. He studied the bones of his dinner. He even rode around the world on a boat called The Beagle.

These methods may sound unorthodox, but they led him to some pretty great thoughts—and discoveries about the origins of life as we know it.

Sibert Medalist Nicholas Day's conversational text has all the charm of a true story told by your smartest, most interesting friend. With Hadley Hooper's engrossingly textured illustrations, *How to Have a Thought* is both an introduction to Darwin and an invitation to live with brilliant curiosity.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Nicholas Day has been a wine salesman, a wedding cake baker, a fairground maintenance man, and a stay-at-home father. He is the author of the Sibert Medal-winning title *The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity*, illustrated by Brett Helquist, and *Nothing: John Cage and 4'33"*, illustrated by Chris Raschka. His writing has also appeared in *Slate*, *Salon*, *The Washington Post*, *The Chicago Tribune*, and *The Atlantic*, among other publications. He lives with his family in Buffalo, NY.

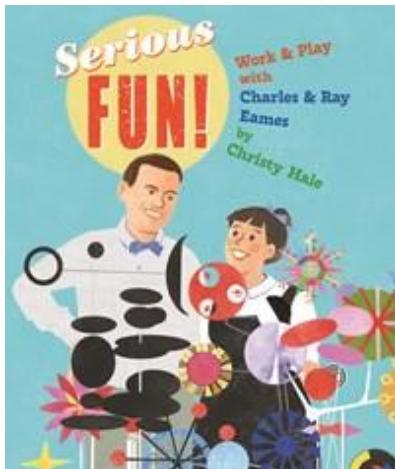
Author Residence: Buffalo, NY

Hadley Hooper is a painter and illustrator whose artwork has been exhibited in galleries and museums in major cities such as San Francisco, Toronto, New York, Denver, and Santa Fe. As a picture book illustrator, she has worked with bestselling authors such as Patricia MacLachlan, Liz Garton Scanlon, and Jan Greenberg. She lives in Denver with her partner and their dog.

Illustrator Residence: Denver, CO

Neal Porter Books
9780823458509
Pub Date: 1/13/2026
On Sale Date: 1/13/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
10 in H | 7.9 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.7
lb Wt



Neal Porter Books

9780823456604

Pub Date: 3/17/2026

On Sale Date: 3/17/2026

\$19.99

Hardcover

40 Pages

Ages 7 to 11, Grades 2 to 6

Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography & Autobiography

10.8 in H | 9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Serious Fun!

Work & Play with Charles & Ray Eames

Christy Hale

Summary

Mid-century modern is fun for the whole family in this picture book about the importance of play for the designers of the iconic Eames chair.

Twentieth-century design duo Charles and Ray Eames had serious fun experimenting and solving problems. In all that they did, they let fun lead the way; the only rules were no rules, no limits and no getting bored.

Though best known today for their timelessly iconic leather lounge chairs, the Eameses were always trying something new. They made furniture in every shape they could think of, bending and layering plywood on a homemade contraption. They made short films, designed textiles and arranged museum exhibits, dabbled in architecture and photography. They even tried their hand at toy design, wanting to give kids tools to foster free thinking and exploration—the same principles that fueled their own work.

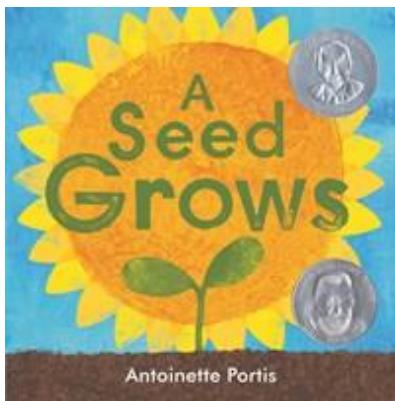
Christy Hale's retro illustrations and enthusiastic text bring mid-century modern delightfully alive. *Serious Fun!* is a must-read for any bright young thinker already suspecting that all-work, no-play grown-ups have got it all wrong.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Christy Hale is the author and illustrator of several acclaimed children's books, including *Copycat: Nature-Inspired Design Around the World*, *Out the Door*, *Todos Iguales: Un corrido de Lemon Grove /All Equal: A Ballad of Lemon Grove*, *Water Land: Land and Water forms Around the World*, *Dreaming Up: A Celebration of Building*, and *The East-West House: Noguchi's Childhood in Japan*. An art director, designer, and educator, Hale offers programs for all ages. Like Charles and Ray Eames, she loves to blend work with play, designing and making all kinds of things. She lives with her husband in Palo Alto, California. You can visit her online at christyhale.com.

Author Residence: Palo Alto, CA



A Seed Grows

Antoinette Portis

Summary

From a tiny seed to a huge, fold-out bloom, the transformative life cycle of a sunflower plays out in this bold read-aloud.

A Sibert Honor Book!

A Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book!

To understand how a seed becomes a sunflower, you have to peek beneath the soil and wait patiently as winding roots grow, a stalk inches out of the earth, and new seeds emerge among blooming petals.

*"A seed falls,
And settles into the ground,
And the Sun shines,
And the rain comes down,
And the seed grows..."*

Leading up to a striking fold-out spread of a full-grown sunflower, the lively, bold illustrations in *A Seed Grows* offer a close-up view of each step of the growth cycle.

Additional material in the back of the book explains the science of plant life cycles, and goes into more detail on the ways in which flowers and seeds depend on other creatures.

Antoinette Portis is the author of *A New Green Day*, a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year and NCTE Notable Book in Poetry, as well as the Sibert Honor winning *Hey, Water!*

An American Library Association Notable Children's Book

A CALIBA Golden Poppy Award Finalist

A New York Public Library Best Book of the Year

A Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year

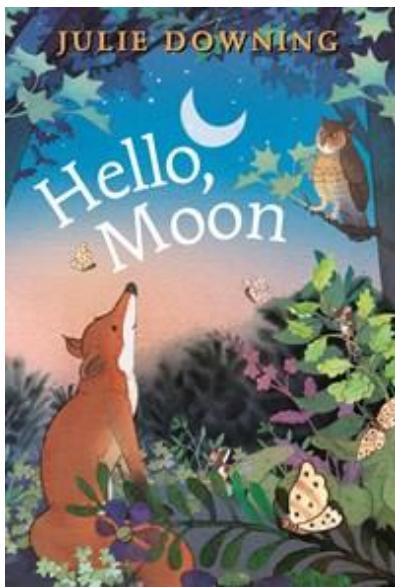
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

A Horn Book Fanfare Title

Contributor Bio

Antoinette Portis is the author of many inventive books for children, including *Not a Box*, a *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book and a Geisel Honor Book and the Sibert Honor book *Hey, Water!*, which received starred reviews from Kirkus Reviews, Booklist, and School Library Journal, who said "This simple introduction to water is an ideal read-aloud for the youngest scientists". Other titles include *A New Green Day* which was a Junior Library Guild selection and a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year, as well as the ALA Notable Books *Wait* and *Now*. A recipient of the prestigious Sendak Fellowship, she lives in Southern California. Visit her at AntoinettePortis.com

Author Residence: Southern California



Hello, Moon

Julie Downing

Summary

This perfect bedtime read-aloud describes that magical time, just as we're drifting off to sleep, when the moon shines brightly and life emerges from the forest. Now a board book!

*Hello moon,
Goodbye sun.
Night is near,
Day is done.*

When the sun goes down and most of us are getting ready for bed, the nighttime animals of the forest all wake up to the light of the moon. It calls to them, from the slyest fox to the tiniest mouse, who feasts on leaves and fruit and scurries beneath the brush.

Gentle rhyming text is illustrated with soft and dreamy artwork in this perfect bedtime book in the tradition of *Goodnight Moon*, now in board book form for the littlest listeners. For more bedtime rhymes, don't miss the companion book *Hello, Sun*, which chronicles the other side of the daily cycle.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Julie Downing has illustrated over forty-five picture books including *Cubs in the Tub: The True Story of the Bronx Zoo's First Woman Zookeeper* by Candace Fleming, *The Fire Keeper's Son*, *Tessa Takes Wing* and *First Mothers*. She has won many awards including a Parents Choice Award, the New York Public Library's Best Books Award, APAAL Best Illustrated Book and the Irma Black Silver Medal. Her work has been featured in the SCBWI Original Art Show.

Julie teaches illustration to undergraduate and graduate students at the Academy of Art University. She lives in San Francisco.

Author Residence: San Francisco, California

Neal Porter Books
9780823462506

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On Sale Date: 3/17/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

28 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
7 in H | 4.8 in W | 0.7 in T | 0.5 lb
Wt



Hello, Sun

Julie Downing

Summary

Follow the sun and the creatures it shines on from dawn to nightfall in this companion to *Hello, Moon*, from Parent's Choice Award Winner Julie Downing. Now a board book!

*Hello, sun!
Goodbye, night!
Sunrise chill,
pale dawn light.*

Julie Downing's signature artwork washes each page in a symphony of blue, green and purple foliage; the sky shifts from amber to pink, buttercup-yellow, or darkest indigo. Sleepy bears, rabbits, deer, and other animals rise from cozy dens and burrows to greet the day.

From the award-winning creator of *Hello, Moon* and *Night in the City*, *Hello, Sun* is now available as a board book suited for Julie's youngest fans. Whether you're starting the day or ending it, don't miss this engrossing walk with the sun and the creatures it shines on.

Contributor Bio

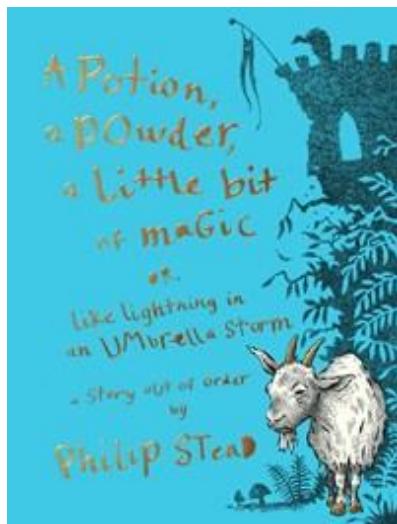
Julie Downing is the author of *Hello, Moon* and *Night in the City*. She has illustrated over forty-five picture books, including *Night in the City*, *Hello, Moon*, *Cubs in the Tub: The True Story of the Bronx Zoo's First Woman Zookeeper* by Candace Fleming, *The Fire Keeper's Son*, *Tessa Takes Wing*, and *First Mothers*. She has won many awards, including a Parents Choice Award, the New York Public Library's Best Books Award, APAAL Best Illustrated Book and the Irma Black Silver Medal. Her work has been featured in the SCBWI Original Art Show. She lives in San Francisco.

Author Residence: San Francisco, CA

Author Hometown: Denver, CO

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On Sale Date: 3/17/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

28 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
7 in H | 4.8 in W | 0.7 in T | 0.5 lb
Wt



A Potion, a Powder, a Little Bit of Magic

Or, Like Lightning in an Umbrella Storm

Philip C. Stead

Summary

A plucky young goatkeeper sets out on a misadventurous rescue mission in this uproarious debut novel with premium hardcover features, perfect for fans of Kate DiCamillo and Lemony Snicket.

In a kingdom ruled by a capricious king, the castle rests on the backs of twenty-four goats, and the welfare of those goats rests on the back of a girl called Bernadette. So when one goat escapes, it's up to her—with the help of a very forgetful wizard and a Boat That Does Not Grant Wishes—to bring it back safely.

Her task may be straightforward, but this book is anything but. Like a swirling herd of restless goats, the chapters are all out of order. The ending may prove to have been the beginning all along. All the while, the author of Bernadette's saga—a character himself—hurries to write her a resolution, with very mixed results. And if you're feeling lost, don't worry; the story has twenty-four morals, of varying advisability, to edify you along the way.

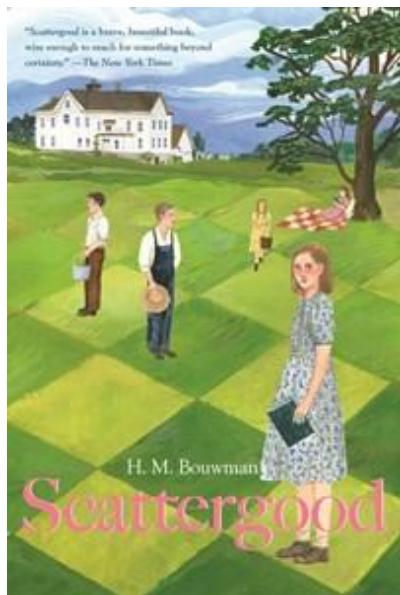
Award-winning picture book author and illustrator Philip Stead makes a confident debut as a novelist in this laugh-out-loud, one-of-a-kind illustrated tale, chock-full of running gags, broken fourth walls, and underdog triumph.

Gilded edges, a velvet-touch jacket with foil accents and embossing, a foil-stamped cloth case and printed endpapers make *A Potion, a Powder, a Little Bit of Magic* as thrilling to hold as it is to open, a perfect gift for any young reader.

Contributor Bio

Philip Stead is the author of the Caldecott Medal-winning book *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*, also named a New York Times Best Illustrated Book and a Publishers Weekly Best Children's Book, illustrated by his wife and frequent collaborator, Erin Stead. He is the author and illustrator of *The North Wind and the Sun*, a Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year. He lives with Erin, their daughter, and their dog in a hundred-year-old barn in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Author Residence: Ann Arbor, MI



Scattergood

H. M. Bouwman

Summary

In rural Iowa in 1941, twelve-year-old Peggy's quiet life is turned upside down by refugee arrivals, first love, and a heartbreakin

Growing up a farm girl, Peggy's life has never been particularly exciting. But a lot changes in 1941. Her friend Joe starts acting strange around her. The Quaker hostel nearby reopens to house Jewish refugees from Europe, including a handsome boy named Gunther and a troubled professor of nothing. And her cousin and best friend, Delia, is diagnosed with leukemia—and doesn't even know it.

Peggy has always been rational. She may not be able to understand poetry and speak in metaphors like Delia, but she has to believe she can find a way out of this mess, for both of them. There has to be a cure. And yet the more she tries to control, the more powerless she feels. She can't make Gunther see her the way she sees him. She can't help the Professor find his missing daughter. She's tired of feeling young and naive, but growing up is proving even worse.

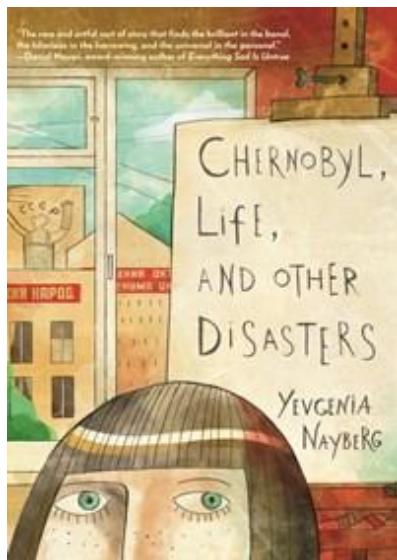
A historical coming-of-age novel that feels as alive and present as today, *Scattergood* offers even readers familiar with World War II a fascinating new glimpse of history, far from the battlefields of Europe and the shores of New York City. H.M. Bouwman presents a raw and unapologetic snapshot of a girl battling her own shortcomings and the random nature of life.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

H.M. Bouwman is an author of middle grade fantasy and historical fantasy, including *A Crack in the Ocean*, *A Tear in the Sea*, and *Gossamer Summer*. She teaches creative writing at the University of St. Thomas and lives in St. Paul, Minnesota with her family.

Author Residence: St. Paul, MN



Chernobyl, Life, and Other Disasters

A Graphic Memoir

Yevgenia Nayberg

Summary

Strong-willed Genya sets her mind to attending art school in 1980s Ukraine, amidst the turmoil of Soviet control, the Cold War, and the unfolding Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Genya—the nickname of the book's author and story's protagonist, Yevgenia—knows from age five that she wants to be an artist. When she turns eleven, she'll apply to the same prestigious art school that her mother attended. But making the cut won't be easy, especially with the school's open-secret rule that no more than 1% of the student body can be Jewish.

The years before Genya's eleventh birthday bring plenty to distract her. Nothing in Soviet Ukraine is quite as it seems; adults mock the government, but only in private; and her classmates are terrified of American bomb strikes. And that's all before April 26, 1986, when Genya's police officer neighbor gets called to an emergency in a town she's never heard of: Chernobyl.

A graphic memoir account of creator Yevgenia Nayberg's childhood, *Chernobyl, Life, and Other Disasters* is both deeply personal and a glimpse into broader Soviet intelligentsia experiences. Young readers curious about life elsewhere, particularly in the face of disaster, will find ample details to devour, while those dreaming of a creative life will take inspiration from Genya's perseverance. Salient and yet often slyly funny, this is a must-read for any graphic memoir fan.

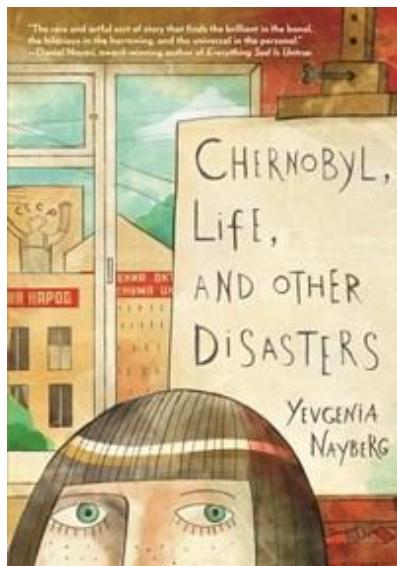
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Yevgenia Nayberg is an award-winning illustrator, painter, and set and costume designer. She has received multiple awards for her picture book illustrations, including a Sydney Taylor Honor and two notable recognitions. She is the author and illustrator of the picture books *A Party for Florine*, *Anya's Secret Society*, *Typewriter*, *Mona Lisa In New York*, and *I Hate Borsch!*, and the illustrator of *Drop by Drop* by Jacqueline Jules, among other collaborations. Born and raised in Kyiv, Ukraine, she now lives in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Author Hometown: Kyiv, Ukraine



Chernobyl, Life, and Other Disasters

A Graphic Memoir

Yevgenia Nayberg

Summary

Strong-willed Genya sets her mind to attending art school in 1980s Ukraine, amidst the turmoil of Soviet control, the Cold War, and the unfolding Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Genya—the nickname of the book's author and story's protagonist, Yevgenia—knows from age five that she wants to be an artist. When she turns eleven, she'll apply to the same prestigious art school that her mother attended. But making the cut won't be easy, especially with the school's open-secret rule that no more than 1% of the student body can be Jewish.

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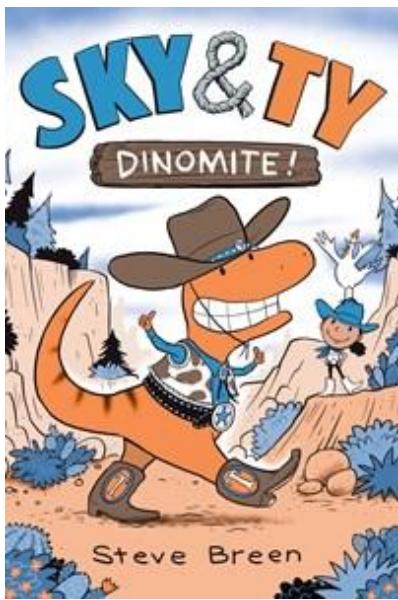
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Sky & Ty 2: Dinomite!

Steve Breen

Summary

Now in paperback! Cowgirl Sky and her T. rex partner Ty return to deliver more high energy, heartfelt adventures, and laughs in this second installment of their graphic novel series from a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winner. Perfect for young chapter book graphic novel fans who love *Narwhal and Jelly* and *Unicorn and Yeti*.

There's never a day's rest when you run the best delivery service in these here parts, but cowgirl Sky and her T. rex partner Ty, are always up for a challenge.

Whether it's helping a long-lost relative realize his dream to soar or realizing that all that glitters is not gold and big and flashy doesn't mean better, this pair always lands on the right way to pull through, because they're an unstoppable team.

The second book in this funny and warm young chapter book graphic novel series by two-time Pulitzer Prize Winner Steve Breen features two stories rendered in vibrant three-color art, interspersed with fun facts about the coolest of cowgirls and other extra content to explore.

**A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection
Nominated to the ALA's GNCRT Best Graphic Novels for Children List**

Contributor Bio

Steve Breen is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist and his video broadcast work has won several Emmys. He is cartoonist for *inewssource.org*. His work is nationally syndicated by Creators Syndicate and appears regularly in *The Week* and other national publications. His picture books include *Stick*, *Violet the Pilot*, *Pug and Doug*, and *Woodpecker Wants a Waffle* (2017 New Hampshire Ladybug Picture Book Award). He also created Universal Kids's *Powerbirds*. He lives in California with his family. In his spare time, he reads, runs, and plays the guitar poorly.

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