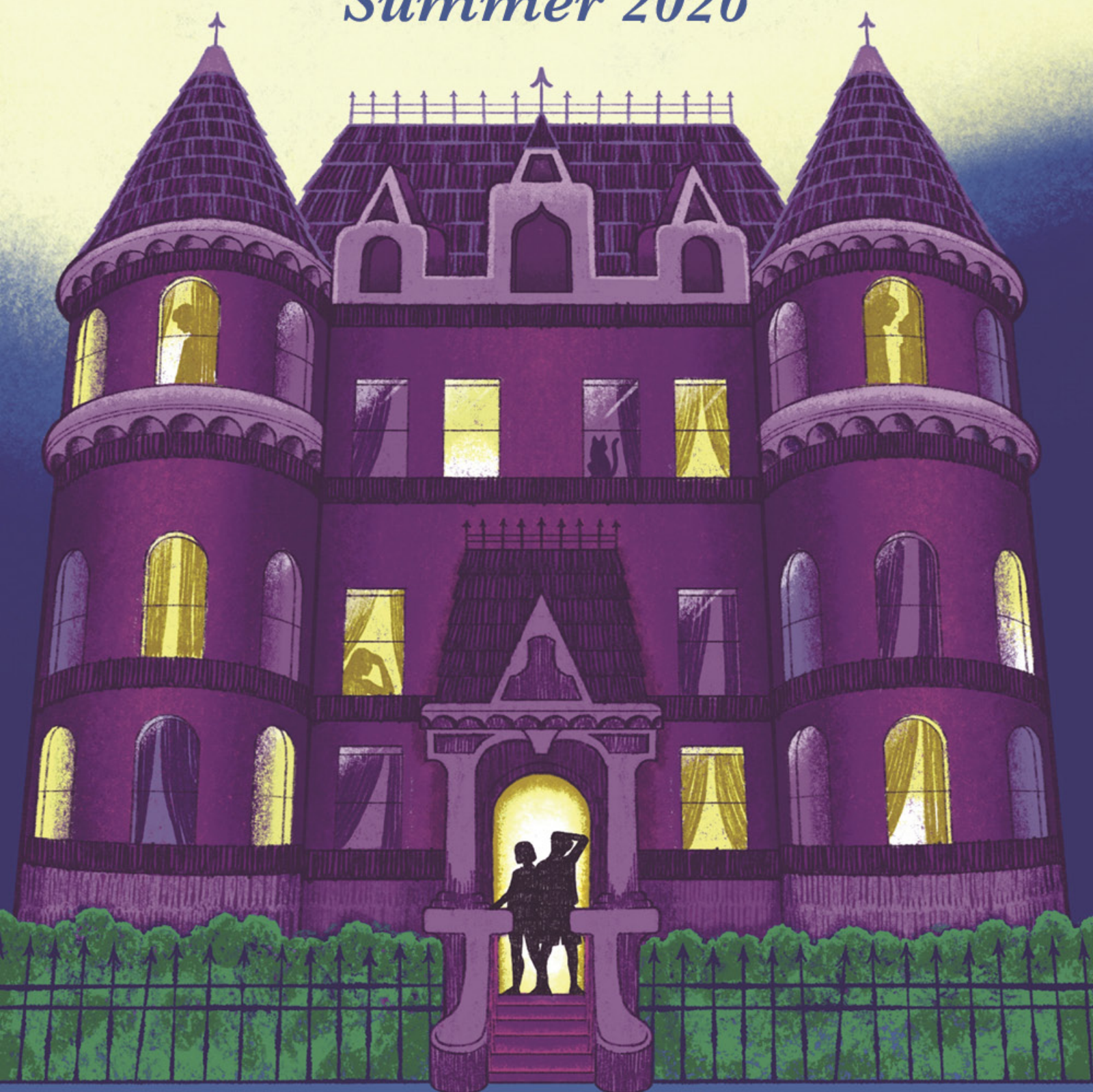
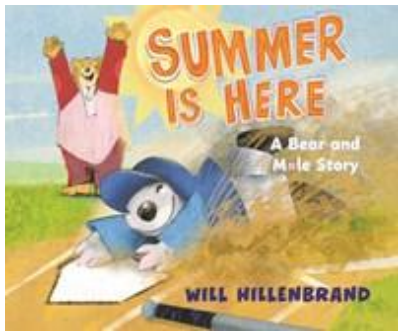


HOLIDAY HOUSE AND PEACHTREE

Summer 2026





Summer Is Here

A Bear and Mole Story

Will Hillenbrand

Summary

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

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

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

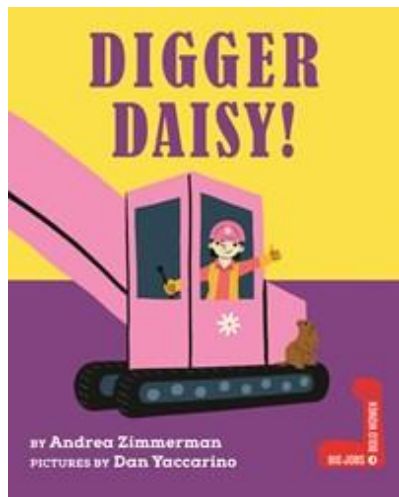
Full of simple sound-words and lots of repetition, Spring is Here is ideal to share with toddlers. This new board book format is small and durable, perfect for the adventurous toddler who loves playing ball.

Contributor Bio

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

Holiday House
9780823463640
Pub Date: 5/5/2026
On Sale Date: 5/5/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

30 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Bear and Mole
6 in H | 6.5 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.5 lb
Wt



Digger Daisy!

Andrea Zimmerman, Dan Yaccarino

Summary

Who can dig the park out of the mud? Digger Daisy and her awesome excavator sure can!

They scoop and dump.

They lift and load.

They clean the mess to clear the road.

Digger Daisy and her team are called when rain floods a local park with mud, trees, and rocks. With Daisy in the lead, a team of excavators, diggers, backhoes, and dump trucks begin cleaning up. But when a digger gets stuck in the mud, can Daisy finish the job? With clever problem solving and some helpful beavers, Digger Daisy saves the day.

The Big Jobs, Bold Women series introduces kids to strong women in tough hands-on jobs. Don't miss *Firefighter Flo!*, *Crane Jane!*, and *Plumber Pearl!*

With dynamic artwork from Dan Yaccarino, Nickelodeon character designer for *The Backyardigans*, and energetic verse from Andrea Zimmerman, best-selling author of *Trashy Town*, *Digger Daisy* is the perfect book for the kids who love big construction trucks.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: San Diego, CA

Author Hometown: Ohio, Utah, New York, and California

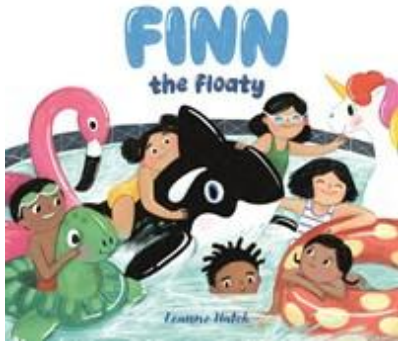
Dan Yaccarino is an author-illustrator who has been named to the Texas Bluebonnet list for *The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau*, Kirkus' Best Children's Book List for *All the Way To America*, The New York Times 10 Best Illustrated List and the *Bologna Ragazzi for Every Friday*. His picture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

Illustrator Residence: Clifton, NJ

Illustrator Hometown: New York, NY

Holiday House
9780823461240
Pub Date: 7/21/2026
On Sale Date: 7/21/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 6, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Business,
Careers, Occupations
Series: Big Jobs, Bold Women
10 in H | 8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Holiday House
9780823459568
Pub Date: 5/12/2026
On Sale Date: 5/12/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Imagination & Play
9.3 in H | 10.6 in W | 0.4 in T | 1 lb Wt

Finn the Floaty

Leanne Hatch

Summary

When a gust of wind sweeps inflatable pool toy Finn out to sea, he's in for an ocean of trouble in this summertime picture book adventure from acclaimed author-illustrator Leanne Hatch.

Unlike most orcas, Finn swims in a heated pool and is as light as air. His life as a floating pool toy can be fun in the sun—after all, summer is the best!—but it can also be noisy and exhausting. He's jumped on! Kicked! Splashed! Sometimes he wonders what's on the other side of the backyard fence... and when a gust of wind comes along, blowing him up in the air, it's time for HIS summer adventure.

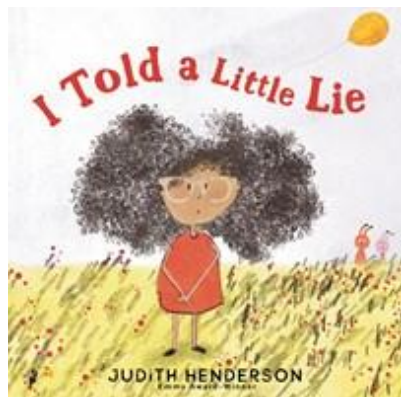
Finn soars as high as an airplane, swims with his new orca friends in the strange new pool we call the ocean, and gets mixed up with some carnival balloons. Then another gust of wind blows him into a tree and POP he loses his air. Luckily, the family that finds him recognizes him and is able to patch him up and take him back where he belongs—home.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Leanne Hatch is the author and illustrator of *Unraveled*, a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection, and *The Brand-New, Never-Used Perfect Crayons*, a Bank Street Best Book of the Year. Her illustration portfolios have won an SCBWI Portfolio Showcase Award Grand Prize and two Honors. She was also the winner of the SCBWI Narrative Art Award and 1st Place Portfolio Award at the SCBWI Western Washington Conference. Leanne lives in Kirkland, Washington. Visit her at leaneehatch.com and on Instagram.

Author Residence: Kirkland, Washington



I Told a Little Lie

Judith Henderson

Summary

One teensy, tiny lie has a BIG impact in this picture book with an irresistible heroine and charming mixed-media illustrations.

When a little girl finds a balloon, she figures it's her lucky day. Hooray!

But the crowd around her assumes it's her birthday... Oops.

The girl doesn't correct them, and the next thing she knows, they're expecting a party and a cake. It seems that one little lie can have big consequences. The group demands to know: How many layers? What kind of frosting? Will there be sprinkles?

What's a girl to do?! It's hard to confess to a lie—especially when you didn't intend for it to go this far. She thinks about it... and thinks about it... and realizes that she knows just how to remedy the situation. It's time to make cupcakes. (With frosting!)

A universally relatable topic comes to life with a light, kid friendly touch. Perfect for young readers who have been known to "embellish" their stories or let an assumption get carried away.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Judith Henderson cooks up a lot of stuff. She is an author, illustrator, an Emmy Award winning composer and children's TV producer; she also wrote the theme song for the PBS show Arthur. Her books for children include Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selections Grandmothers Galore and Lion on the Inside, which received a starred review from School Library Journal. You can find her online at www.judebox.com.

Author Residence: Montreal, Canada

Holiday House
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\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
10.3 in H | 10.3 in W | 0.4 in T | 1
lb Wt



Turtle-Turtle and the Wide, Wide River

Jane Hillenbrand, Will Hillenbrand

Summary

Whish! Whoosh! When the river rises, Turtle-Turtle needs his friends' help reaching higher ground in this epic, but ultimately reassuring, ode to friendship and resilience.

*The rain pelted down, down, down
And the wide, wide river rose up, up, up
All around, all around.*

When a storm strikes, most of the animals know what to do: Skiddaddle! But Turtle-Turtle doesn't realize he should swim away . . . until the water rises. Although he's scared to weather it on his own, he learns that he doesn't have to. Comforting companions Heron and Frog help Turtle-Turtle until—bit-by-bit, friend-by-friend—he finds the strength within himself to push onwards to safer shores.

Rich with rhythm and read-aloud potential, *Turtle-Turtle and the Wide, Wide River* is a perfect bedtime book that masterfully melds an epic adventure with a reassuring ending. Drawing on their years of shared experience teaching and creating picture books, Jane & Will Hillenbrand offer readers a celebration of friendship and a gentle reminder that, even when you're stuck on the stormiest seas, your loved ones will help you to stay afloat.

Contributor Bio

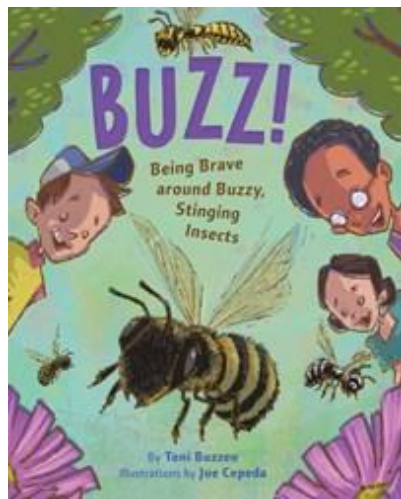
Jane Hillenbrand is an elementary school teacher. *What a Treasure!* was her first picture book. Publishers Weekly called it a "warm look at appreciating the small, often unexpected, joys in one's life." She lives in Ohio with her husband, Will Hillenbrand.

Author Residence: Cincinnati, OH

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

Holiday House
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On Sale Date: 6/2/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 3 to 6, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Action &
Adventure
10 in H | 10 in W | 0.2 in T | 0.5 lb
Wt



Holiday House
9780823459711
Pub Date: 6/2/2026
On Sale Date: 6/2/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

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

Buzz!

Being Brave Around Buzzy, Stinging Insects

Toni Buzzeeo, Joe Cepeda

Summary

Don't run away from buzzing insects—this book will teach you how to be safe, and "bee" a good friend to these important pollinators

Do you feel scared when you're outside hear that BUZZZZZZ? Don't be! With this handy guide, learn everything you need to know about bees and other pollinators.

In simple, accessible language, author *New York Times* best-selling author Toni Buzzeeo describes how kids can be safe around stinging insects. Learn how to remain calm when you meet a bee and what to do if you get stung. Discover how to watch the pollinators in your backyard safely and why they are so important to things kids love, like their favorite foods.

Perfect for the kid who needs some help gaining confidence outdoors and for the young explorers who can't stay out of the bushes.

Joe Cepeda, Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor-winner and ALA Pura Belpré Honor-winning illustrator (and nature enthusiast), makes insects look friendly and fascinating with his vibrant colors.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Toni Buzzeeo is a *New York Times* bestselling children's author. She has published twenty-nine picture books for kids as well as eleven books for teachers and librarians. A former librarian and college and high school writing teacher, Toni and her books have won many awards, including a Caldecott Honor for *One Cool Friend*, illustrated by David Small. Her fictional human and animal characters echo children's experiences in a variety of ways. Her nonfiction topics range from inspiring biographies of women scientists to board books about vehicles and transportation. Endlessly enthusiastic, Toni draws on her career experiences as an elementary school librarian in crafting her books and speaking with audiences of children in schools and libraries. Toni lives in Arlington, Massachusetts.

Joe Cepeda received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from California State University, Long Beach, and also studied Engineering at Cornell University. He is a fine artist, as well as an illustrator of more than thirty-five book jackets and picture books, which have received many honors including Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies, Parenting Magazine's Reading Magic Award, Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Platinum Award, Texas Library Association 2x2 Reading List, ALA Notable Books, and Child Magazine's Best Book of the Year. Joe illustrated *Hey, Hey Hay!* by Christy Mihaly, *iVamonos! Let's Go!* by Rene Colato Lainez, and *Swing Sisters* by Karen Deans. He both wrote and illustrated the I Like to Read books--*Up, I Dig, I See*, and *I Hop. I Hop* received a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor, given to the most distinguished books for beginning readers. Joe received an American Library Association Pura Belpré Honor (for outstanding books that celebrate the Latino cultural experience) and the Recognition of Merit Award from the George G. Stone Center for Children's Books. He lives in Claremont, California



Hurricanes! (Third Edition)

Gail Gibbons

Summary

What in the world is a hurricane? In this age of extreme weather, this newly updated edition of Gail Gibbons' informative introduction to hurricanes, with safety tips included, answers that question.

Imagine a force that can toss boats around like toys, wash away bridges, create waves as high as eighteen feet, and change the shape of a shoreline. With fierce winds and torrential rains, hurricanes can do all of these things.

In this newly revised edition, vetted by weather experts, Gail Gibbons introduces readers to the concepts of hurricane formation, classification, weather preparedness, and the ever-evolving technology that helps us try to predict the behavior of these powerful storms.

Extensive updates include refined definitions for hurricane-related vocabulary, updated information about the wind speeds that define hurricane categories, information on emergency preparedness, and more. As these weather disturbances become more frequent and more powerful, *Hurricanes* is the perfect introduction for children to this important and timely topic.

With her signature clear, colorful paintings and well-labeled diagrams, Gail Gibbons' nonfiction titles have been called ""staples of any collection" (*Kirkus Reviews*) and offer clear, accessible introductions to complex topics for young readers beginning to explore the world.

Contributor Bio

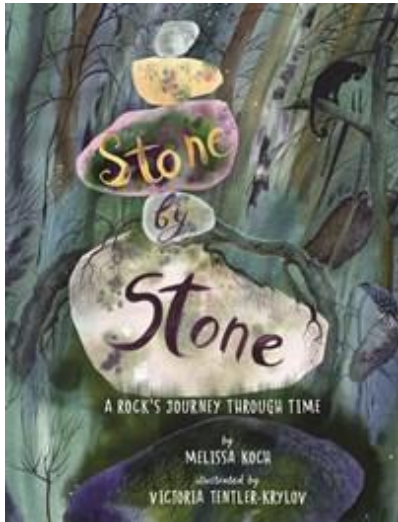
According to *The Washington Post*, Gail Gibbons "has taught more preschoolers and early readers about the world than any other children's writer-illustrator." The multi award-winning Ms. Gibbons is the author of more than 100 books for young readers, including the bestselling titles *From Seed to Plant* 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
9780823462971
Pub Date: 7/28/2026
On Sale Date: 7/28/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science &
Nature

10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Stone by Stone

A Rock's Journey Through Time

Melissa Koch, Victoria Tentler-Krylov

Summary

Changed by billions of years and shaped by human hands, the stones that make up our homes, roadways, buildings, and bridges are a part of our story. Earth's story.

From ancient cairns to castles, from the Great Wall of China to Maya cities, the stone structures we build tell us who we are, what we value, what we fear, and who we want to be. The story begins deep below the Earth's surface. All those stones start with a rock.

Stone by Stone invites readers to consider how geology, engineering, and human history connect. The book opens with a striking and dramatic description of the rock cycle before delving into the many ways humans have used stones across history to rebuild, reconnect, and reimagine our place on Earth.

Melissa Koch's lyrical language takes readers on a journey through the world's stone structures, highlighting the human side of science. Victoria Tentler-Krylov's art vibrates with energy, capturing the fire of the earth and the spirit of invention that lives inside all of us.

Robust back matter includes more information on the rock cycle, engineering, and stone usage throughout history, as well as a timeline, bibliography, and list of resources.

Contributor Bio

Melissa Koch writes nonfiction children's books that focus on making science and social justice personal and valuable to kids. For YA readers, Melissa has written *3D Printing: The Revolution in Personalized Manufacturing* and *Forest Talk: How Trees Communicate*. She has also designed award-winning learning technologies and out-of-school learning experiences that encourage women and youth from diverse backgrounds to pursue their dreams in STEM. *Stone by Stone* is Melissa's debut picture book. She lives with her family in an old house with a solid stone foundation in a small Iowa town surrounded by limestone bluffs.

Author Residence: Iowa

Author Hometown: San Francisco

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

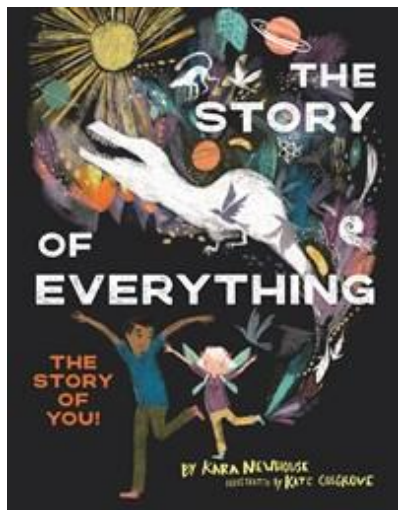
Illustrator Residence: New Jersey

Illustrator Hometown: Russia

Holiday House
9780823456734
Pub Date: 8/4/2026
On Sale Date: 8/4/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature

11 in H | 8.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



The Story of Everything

The Story of You!

Kara Newhouse, Kate Cosgrove

Summary

This book explains EVERYTHING—from the birth of the universe to the birth of YOU!

How did the universe begin? Where did the sun and the planets come from? What about the earth and all of its plants and animals? And how do I fit into this elegant plan?

This picture book answers all of those questions and more for curious kids who never run out of questions.

Beginning with the Big Bang, elegant yet simple prose weaves together the major turning points of all time from formation of the solar to the dinosaurs to the evolution of humankind. Building this beautiful portrait of our universe, young readers can discover how they are the culmination of extraordinary events!

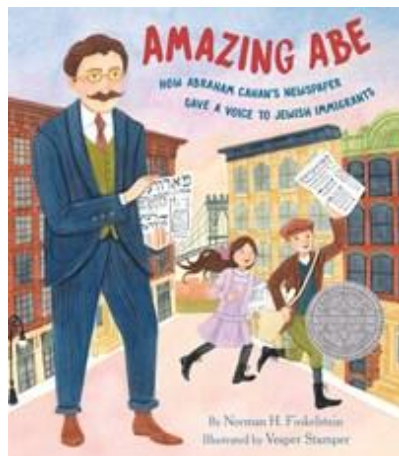
A spiritual successor of the classic *On the Day You Were Born* by Debra Frasier, *The Story of Everything* is an inspiring gift for baby showers, birthdays, soon-to-be-siblings, or graduations.

Perfect for preschoolers, kindergarteners and first and second graders. The simple text delivers accessible science education in few words. In the back of the book, an easily read chart provides a timeline and describes major events in each geologic time period.

Holiday House
9780823458462
Pub Date: 5/5/2026
On Sale Date: 5/5/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature

11.3 in H | 8.9 in W | 0.4 in T | 1 lb Wt



Amazing Abe

How Abraham Cahan's Newspaper Gave a Voice to Jewish Immigrants

Norman H. Finkelstein, Vesper Stamper

Summary

A Sydney Taylor Honor Book

A loving tribute to a towering figure in Jewish American history from two award-winning creators.

Two-time National Jewish Book Award winner Norman H. Finkelstein and Sydney Taylor Award winner Vesper Stamper have teamed up to tell the story of Abraham Cahan, the founder and longtime editor of the Yiddish language newspaper the *Forverts* (the *Forward*), which, in its heyday, was one of the largest newspapers in the United States. As the saying went: "What's a home without the *Forverts*?"

From explaining voting rights to the importance of public health measures to everyday questions like how to play baseball, Cahan improved the lives of countless newly arrived Jewish immigrants who wanted to feel at home in a new, strange land. He also published celebrated writers such as Isaac Bashevis Singer and created the iconic advice column the Bintel Brief for homesick readers.

Back matter includes a bibliography, a time line, more info on Cahan's life and the Yiddish language, and a note on the author's personal connection to the *Forverts*.

Contributor Bio

Norman H. Finkelstein was a retired school librarian and a celebrated children's book author. A two-time winner of the National Jewish Book Award as well as a winner of the Golden Kite Honor Award, Norman wrote many nonfiction books for young readers, including *Schools of Hope*, *Union Made*, *Heeding the Call*, and *Forged in Freedom*. He taught at Hebrew College and lived in Massachusetts.

Author Residence: Massachusetts

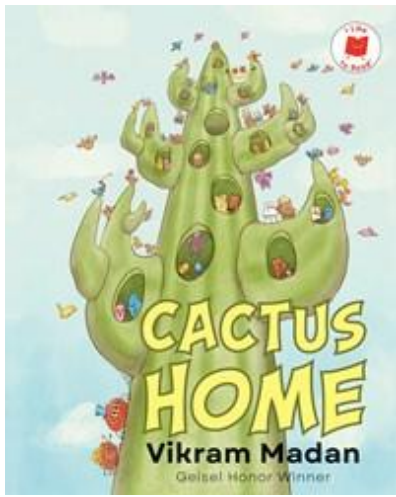
Vesper Stamper is an award-winning author-illustrator of YA historical fiction and picture books. Her debut novel, *What the Night Sings*, was a Sydney Taylor Book Award winner, a National Book Award nominee, and a National Jewish Book Award finalist. Raised in New York City, Vesper's dreams of one day illustrating the Lower East Side at the turn of the century were fulfilled when she was asked to illustrate *Amazing Abe*. She teaches illustration at School of Visual Arts and lives with her family in the Northeast. You can find her at vesperillustration.com.

Illustrator Residence:the Northeast

Holiday House
9780823463978
Pub Date: 8/18/2026
On Sale Date: 8/18/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

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

11 in H | 9 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Cactus Home

Vikram Madan

Summary

A busy home bustles with activity—and unexpected neighbors—in this sweet early reader about welcoming new friends, by a Geisel Honor winning creator.

This cactus is home to many critters. Birds tweet... bats read... owls play. Everyone shares, and everyone has fun!

But one day, spiders move into the cactus. The rest of the critters aren't sure about the spiders... They are new. Will they share? Will they be fun? No one knows.

Then a storm hits their cactus home. Right away, the spiders pitch in to help. They join. They fix. They make repairs. Maybe these new neighbors will become new friends...

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.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Vikram Madan is the acclaimed author/illustrator of more than a dozen books for young readers, including the Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor winning and ALA Notable book *Owl and Penguin*. His books have been honored by the American Library Association, the Texas Library Association, the Junior Library Guild, the New York Public Library, and Bank Street College of Education, and have appeared on multiple state award and Best Books of the Years lists. You can find his doodles and more, online at @artbyvikram.

Author Residence: Seattle, WA

Author Hometown: India

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On Sale Date: 6/16/2026
\$15.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: I Like to Read
10.3 in H | 8.3 in W | 0.3 in T |
0.7 lb Wt



Cub and Bat

Will Hillenbrand

Summary

Best friends Cub and Bat learn that saying please is the way to a sweet reward in this playful, phonics-based early reader from acclaimed author-illustrator Will Hillenbrand.

When Cub sees a swarm of buzzing bees, he can't bee-lieve his luck! Cub loves honey . . . and he'll do anything to get it. He gets a big bin. He gets a big box. He climbs on top. But when his plan to take the honey goes sideways, his best friend Bat comes up with an even more satisfying solution: just say please and ask nicely!

Will Hillenbrand's adorable artwork shines in this lively early reader that will delight the youngest readers with the sweetest treat of all: a journey into a lifelong love of reading. This phonics-based reader offers plenty of practice with the letter b and short vowels.

With fun stories and great pictures, new readers will say . . . "I like to read!" Created by The 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.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Will Hillenbrand has written and illustrated a wide range of picture books for children, including the popular Bear and Mole series and 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

Holiday House
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\$15.99
Hardcover

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



Pia in the Forest

David Bruggink

Summary

Join Pia as she explores a forest, plays pranks on her dad, and even makes a surprise friend in this young graphic novel for fans of Bluey and Calvin and Hobbes.

There are sounds that only exist deep in the woods: the low rumbling inside fallen trees; the tiny tck-tck-tck of a bustling ant colony; the woosh of bird wings in the wind. And Pia and her Dad are determined to record them all!

But in her rush to explore, Pia quickly gets lost. With the help of a new friend Quinn, Pia resolves to find her way back to dad using the sounds of the forest . . . after she and Quinn build fairy houses and play some games, of course.

With warmth and humor, David Bruggink has created a lovably impish character with Pia and a forest world filled with waterfalls and creatures. A color palette of soft greens and blues with simple paneling makes this a cozy read for any afternoon. Back matter includes more information on field recording, how to build fairy houses, and more.

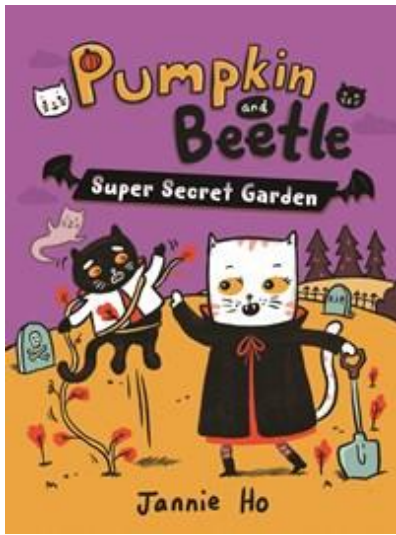
Contributor Bio

David Bruggink is an illustrator, field recordist, and product designer living in Portland, Maine. An active member of the Kids Comics Unite and Sequential Artists Workshop Communities, and he also leads comics workshops for kids. Pia in the Forest is his debut.

Author Residence: Portland, Maine

Holiday House
9780823461608
Pub Date: 7/21/2026
On Sale Date: 7/21/2026
\$14.99
Hardcover

112 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
7.8 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Holiday House
9780823459636
Pub Date: 8/4/2026
On Sale Date: 8/4/2026
\$12.99
Hardcover

80 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: Pumpkin and Beetle
8 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Pumpkin and Beetle: Super Secret Garden

Jannie Ho

Summary

Two vampire cat best friends plus a mysterious treasure, what could go wrong in this young graphic novel full of gentle spooky fun.

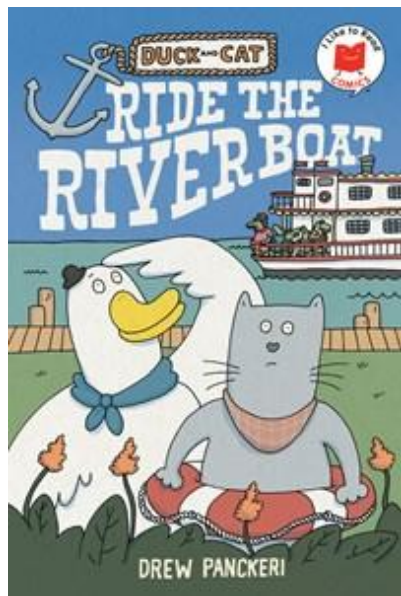
Pumpkin and Beetle are vampire cat best friends who sleep during the day, only eat red foods, and go to school at night! In this adventure, Beetle has found something *mysterious*. To Pumpkin, this treasure looks like a pile of crumbs. They decide to bury it—and soon their whole town is covered in vines. This plant is hungry! Will they be able to save their town? Will curiosity get the better of these two cats?

Pumpkin and Beetle is a delightful graphic novel series for young readers, featuring two vampire cat best friends and their hijinks around their spooky town. Jannie Ho's adorably cute art is filled with Halloween town worldbuilding. The book also includes a town map and a seed growing activity.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Boston, MA



Duck and Cat Ride the Riverboat

Drew Panckeri

Summary

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

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

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

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

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

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Westwood, NJ

Author Hometown: Point Pleasant, NJ

Holiday House

9780823464081

Pub Date: 8/11/2026

On Sale Date: 8/11/2026

\$8.99

Trade Paperback

40 Pages

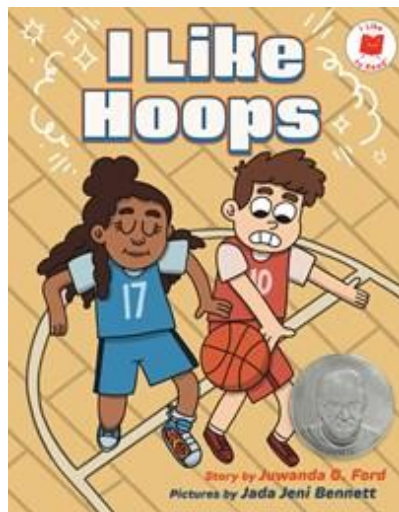
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Comics &

Graphic Novels

Series: I Like to Read Comics

9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Holiday House
9780823464067
Pub Date: 1/5/2027
On Sale Date: 1/5/2027
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

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

I Like Hoops

Juwanda G. Ford, Jada Jeni Bennett

Summary

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

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

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

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

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

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

Contributor Bio

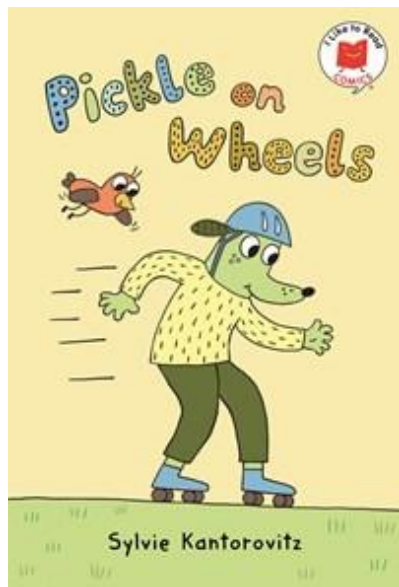
Juwanda G. Ford is the author of picture books and easy readers including the bestselling *Together for Kwanzaa*. Juwanda started playing basketball at her neighborhood recreation center in New Orleans, where she was most often the only girl in the game, but also one of the best players. She played college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

Author Residence: New Orleans, LA

Author Hometown: New Orleans, LA

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

Illustrator Residence: Boston, MA



Pickle on Wheels

Sylvie Kantorovitz

Summary

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

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

Contributor Bio

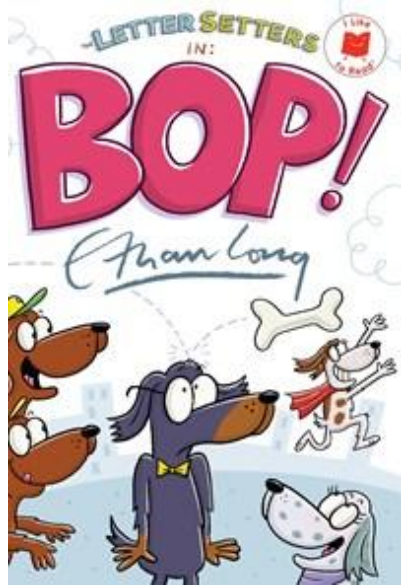
Sylvie Kantorovitz was born in Casablanca and grew up in France. She studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and the Art Students League in New York. She's illustrated over 25 picture books, and is also the author-illustrator *A New Car for Pickle* (ILTR), *Zig and the Magic Umbrella*, *The Very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

Author Residence: Hudson Valley, NY

Author Hometown: France

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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

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



The Letter Setters in Bop!

Ethan Long

Summary

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

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

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

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

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

One of Evanston Public Library's 101 Great Books for Kids

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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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

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



Airrelle of the Maroon Witches

Sumayyah Beck

Summary

***Kiki's Delivery Service* meets *Black Panther* in this middle grade fantasy set in a richly imagined world where once-enslaved people have built an enchanted network of hidden witch communities.**

Anyone can become a witch in Missen Dessalin. If you can find the Missen, that is. Some say the whole reason it was called a "Missen" is because it was a gathering place for those who wanted to stay missin'.

Twelve-year-old Airrelle Bookman, born and raised in Missen Dessalin by two witch parents, has been waiting for magic to call to her *for years now*. She just has to secure her four patron animals, complete four rites, master four skills, and pass the initiation ceremony. Then she'll be a fully confirmed maroon witch, able to fly beyond the walls of the Missen as she pleases. Just like her parents, older siblings, and best friend Hosniya.

When the time for her trial finally seems to arrive, so do familial troubles and threats to the very safety and secrecy of Missen Dessalin itself. But an ordinary girl from beyond the protected walls of Missen, one who has grown up in our own tumultuous and unenchanted world, may just be the key to Airrelle's troubles.

Informed by the history of maroon societies and inspired by the fantasy worlds of Studio Ghibli, *Airrelle of the Maroon Witches* is a beautiful coming of age story about a shy but resourceful girl discovering her own power.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Sumayyah Beck is a speculative fiction writer. Her work has been published by Strange Horizons, PANK, Mizna, and NAT BRUT and she has participated in writing programs including the Clarion Workshop, Tin House, Kimbilio, and VONA. Born on Kumeyaay land with a Motor City mom/Windy City dad Black lineage, Sumayyah is a blended descendant of displaced Bantu, Hausa, and Fulani peoples. She currently resides in California where she completed her MFA in literature at the University of California San Diego. You can find her at: sumayyahbeck.com.

Author Residence: California

Author Hometown: California

Holiday House
9780823460472
Pub Date: 7/14/2026
On Sale Date: 7/14/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover
304 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



All the Sunshine in the World

Caroline Brooks Dubois

Summary

In this riveting novel in verse, thirteen-year-old Tolly fears she was to blame for the accident that killed her older sister. If she could just get her phone back, she might find answers about the day Sunny died...

It's been almost six months since Tolly's sister died in a distracted driving wreck.

Tolly misses Sunny every minute of every day, but is it wrong to want a semi-normal birthday? What about a new phone, to replace the one she lost soon after the accident? Instead, she gets grieving parents and a disappointing, misspelled cake.

And so Tolly is stuck starting 8th grade without a phone in hand, without answers to the endless questions she has about her sister's death. Why did it happen... How did it happen... Was it Tolly's fault? She just needs her old phone back to uncover the truth.

Ironically, thanks to being phone-less, Tolly gets put in charge of a new Luddite club at school, for kids who want to avoid technology. It's the last place she expected to find herself, but it turns out to be a powerful escape from the unrelenting guilt she feels over Sunny's death—and it might just be the place for her to get those answers, too.

Acclaimed poet Caroline Brooks DuBois brings one family's healing into the light in a compelling novel in verse that speaks to this generation's messy feelings about technology, as well as the timeless complications of being a teenager.

Contributor Bio

Caroline Brooks DuBois is the author of *The Places We Sleep*, which received a starred review from *School Library Journal* and was an Indies Introduce and Kids Indie Next selection, as well as *Ode to a Nobody*, which received two starred reviews and was named to multiple state award lists. After teaching English at the middle school, high school, and college level, she was named a Nashville Blue Ribbon Teacher. Caroline lives in Nashville, Tennessee with her family. Visit her online at carolineduboiswrites.com.

Author Residence: Nashville, TN

Holiday House
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Pub Date: 7/28/2026
On Sale Date: 7/28/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

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



California or Dust

Mindy Nichols Wendell

Summary

A powerful story of the devastation of the Dust Bowl—and the courage of those who survived it—in the tradition of *Out of the Dust*.

*We came all the way from California to make something of ourselves.
Today's the day we start.*

California, 1939. It's hard being the new kid in school. . . but it's harder for eleven-year-old Lark and her family, who've fled Oklahoma's Dust Bowl for a not-so-sunny welcome in California. Signs read *Okies, go home!* and *We can't take care of our own!* Kids whisper *Go back to Oklahoma!* Lark would give anything to go back to where she came from, but she can't: the dust storms destroyed everything. The work camp she, her parents, and her many siblings live in is her life now, and even Lark has to get a job.

Can California really be "the land of milk and honey" she was promised? More than that. . . can it ever be home?

Mindy Nichols Wendell's sophomore historical middle-grade novel is a heartfelt, powerful, and incredibly well-written story of resilience, pride, and tenacity in the face of overwhelming obstacles.

Contributor Bio

Mindy Nichols Wendell is the author of *LIGHT AND AIR*, a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection that Shelf Awareness called "richly detailed" and "timeless" in a starred review. She was a professor of writing and pedagogy at SUNY Fredonia, where she served as the Director of the Composition Program. In 2019, she received the prestigious State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Mindy lives in Western New York with her husband, Steve, a retired teacher.

Holiday House
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Pub Date: 8/11/2026
On Sale Date: 8/11/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover
208 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Moving &
Relocation
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Holiday House
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Pub Date: 7/7/2026
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\$18.99
Hardcover

208 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Eleven Kinds of Blue

Katherine Wolff

Summary

An art-obsessed twelve-year-old learns to paint outside the lines to confront her fears and find her strength when her depressed mom's disastrous boyfriend moves in.

Twelve-year-old Margot Stafford is an observer and an artist, far different from her activist older brother and idol, Eli. She spends her time drawing and painting on her own and hanging out with her best friend, Suzanne. Her art class—taught by the eccentric Mr. Grunwald—is the one place where Margot can truly be herself. But even there, she holds on to worries about her depressed mother, whose boyfriend, JP, moves into their house and seems to change her mom in ways Margot can't understand.

JP becomes harsh and quick-tempered, and Eli is too busy to notice. For Margot, neither school nor home feels good right now. Trouble in Math class has forced her into an after-school tutoring program that she resents. And if all that weren't enough, Suzanne is drifting into another friend group and leaving Margot even more alone.

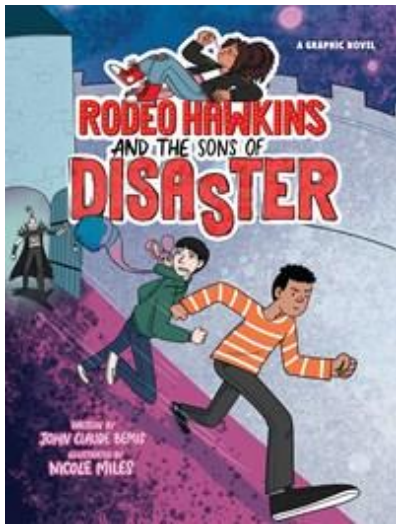
But the words of Mr. Grunwald give her confidence in her own art . . . and in her ability to recognize the beauty around her. A chance discovery in an abandoned art studio inspires Margot to follow a new path. Slowly, she finds that just as neglected artwork can be restored and celebrated . . . neglected people can be restored and celebrated, too.

The story of Margot brings to light the rich imagination of a child who finds herself adjacent to mental illness. With equal parts heartache and hope, this debut novel about one girl and her resilience is also a colorful picture of family love, even in the face of crisis.

Contributor Bio

Katherine Wolff lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Over the years she has reviewed books for *The New York Times*, waitressed in Vermont, assisted art collectors in Seattle, deejayed in New Jersey, worked as a shopgirl in Vienna, edited encyclopedias in Pasadena, studied Great Books in Annapolis, and led walking tours in Boston. She has twin daughters. And a cat. Oh, and a husband, too. *Eleven Kinds of Blue* is her first book for children.

Author Residence: Cambridge, Massachusetts



Rodeo Hawkins and the Sons of Disaster

A Graphic Novel

John Claude Bemis, Nicole Miles

Summary

Rodeo Hawkins and her ragtag gang of interdimensional outlaws may have saved the multiverse... but when a vengeful enemy's plans spell disaster for this group of unlikely heroes, who's going to save them?

Get ready for more mayhem!

In his old life, Sidney was pursued by interdimensional assassins, had "DORK" written on his forehead (twice!), and was magically erased from the memories of his only friend, Walt. But that was before he joined legendary outlaw Rodeo Hawkins as a member of her ragtag gang, The Daughters of Mayhem. Things were starting to look up!

Unfortunately, legendary outlaws have a way of making enemies. And Rodeo Hawkins has tons scattered across the multiverse. When an old nemesis locates Walt and uses him as bait, Sidney faces a terrible choice: saving his old best friend who's forgotten him or helping his new best friends who've become his only family.

This isn't Sidney Poblocki's first rodeo, but it might be his last in this sequel to *Rodeo Hawkins and the Daughters of Mayhem*!

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Series Overview: • **STANDOUT WORK IN STRONG CATEGORY:** Last year, graphic novels accounted for a quarter of all middle grade sales. Despite the challenges middle grade has faced as a whole, this is an attention-grabbing addition to a category young readers devour voraciously.

- **FANTASTICALLY FUNNY:** Out of this world and off the wall, this irreverent sense of humor is voicey and distinctive, sure to elicit laughter from even the most reluctant readers while subversions of classic fantasy tropes will appeal to fantasy fanatics.

- **ENDEARING FOUND FAMILY ENSEMBLE CAST:** From the gleefully misanthropic Rodeo Hawkins herself, who was literally raised by a mountain lion, to the army of Walts (there's blue Walt, buttface Walt, Just Plain Walt), there's a delightfully distinctive character here for everyone to fall in love with.

- **GADGETS GALORE:** Cutting-edge kids who love cool tech will love the great gadgets in this out-of-this world fantasy graphic novel, from a mood ring that changes the wearer's mood to wormholers to send you through the multiverse.

- **NAVIGATES CONFLICT WITHIN FRIENDSHIPS:** As Sidney Poblocki feels pressure to choose between his new friends, the Daughters of Mayhem, and his former best friend Walt, he learns to navigate tensions within friendships and follow his heart to whichever universe it takes him.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Hillsborough, NC

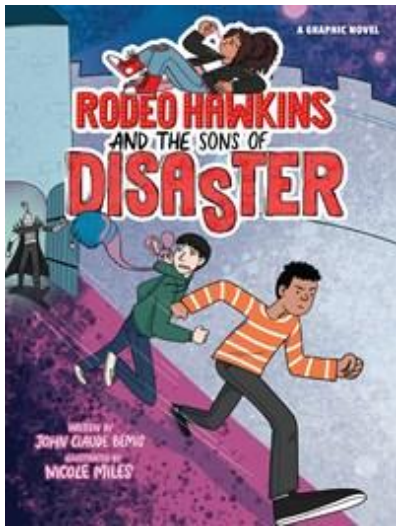
Holiday House
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Pub Date: 8/11/2026
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\$24.99
Hardcover

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

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

Illustrator Residence:West Yorkshire, UK

Illustrator Hometown:The Bahamas



Rodeo Hawkins and the Sons of Disaster

A Graphic Novel

John Claude Bemis, Nicole Miles

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Author Residence: Hillsborough, NC

Nicole Miles has worked with a variety of clients including Adobe, BuzzFeed, Candlewick Press, Google, *the New York Times*, Penguin Random House, Rebel Girls,

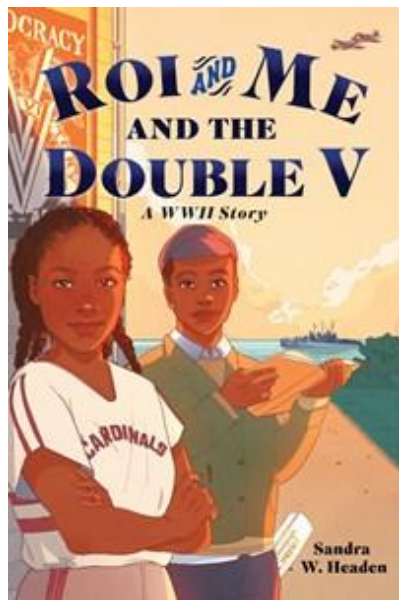
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280 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
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8.3 in H | 6.3 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

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Illustrator Residence:West Yorkshire, UK

Illustrator Hometown:The Bahamas



Roi and Me and the Double V

A WWII Story

Sandra W. Headen

Summary

Best friends Marvel and Roi help out on the WWII homefront, but when racial injustice threatens their community, they must turn to activism for a victory of their own in this empowering middle grade novel.

As WWII rages overseas, best friends track star Marvel and future journalist Roi face injustice much closer to home. They do what they can to support the war effort—growing Victory gardens, collecting scrap—but these contributions don't feel like much of a victory when no one is fighting to protect their freedom. Patriotic Black recruits are turned away from the army, food shortages abound, and the military moves into their neighborhood.

When an industrial developer threatens to destroy the local park where Marvel runs track, this Olympic hopeful fears she'll never make it to the starting line. Galvanized, Marvel and Roi learn about the Double V campaign challenging the irony and hypocrisy of racial inequality: V for Victory Abroad and Victory at Home. With the help of their journalist teacher, can two kids support their community in an activist movement to win the battle against injustice at home?

Rich with historical detail and a convincing voice, Sandra W. Headen's immersive middle grade novel invites readers into the underexplored world of the Black WWII homefront. *Roi and Me and the Double V* is a story of fighting for dreams, standing up to injustice, and the power of the people—children included.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: North Carolina

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\$17.99
Hardcover

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



Secrets at Sparhawk Point

Anna Rose Johnson

Summary

To draw tourists to their declining coastal town, a group of children claim to have seen a mythic creature from Ojibwe legend, the storm-monster Mishipeshu. But when their plan backfires, they'll need to convince everyone the beast is only make-believe. But... what if it isn't?

1943. Sparhawk Point, Michigan may be a small town, but it's home. For the Swedish Ahlstrom girls, it's the only place they've ever known—a place they may have to leave if their father's church can't find more parishioners. The Ojibwe Robicheaux boys are struggling, too: their father is off at war, and a lack of tourists means no income from their two rental cottages. These kids can't bear the thought of leaving... so they'll have to make new residents come to them, and *fast*.

After spotting an unknown object in the water, they find their solution. Drawing on inspiration from Ojibwe stories of the mysterious Mishipeshu—the riser of storms on Lake Superior—the children spread stories of their very own “American Loch Ness monster” to bring curious visitors to their shores. But their plan works too well! People become *afraid* to visit. To save their families, they'll need to convince everyone that the creature isn't real... even if that may prove to be their biggest lie yet.

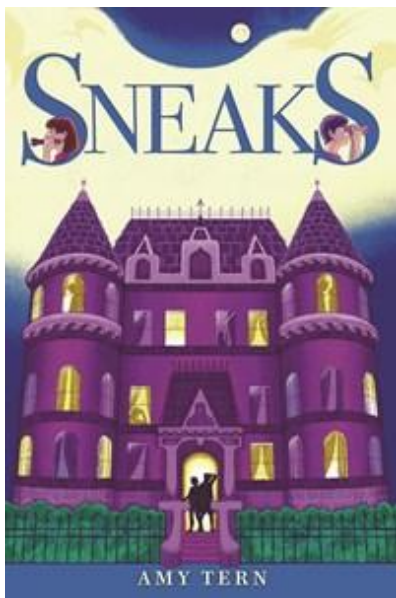
Secrets at Sparhawk Point is a timeless summer adventure from acclaimed Ojibwe voice Anna Rose Johnson, whose first two books—*The Star that Always Stays* and *The Luminous Life of Lucy Landry*—have received an avalanche of awards, nominations, and media spots. This is another flawless, insightful, and glowing novel that marries a Native American perspective with myth, history, and a classic storytelling voice.

Contributor Bio

Anna Rose Johnson is the author of acclaimed books *The Star That Always Stays* (A Michigan Notable Book, an NPR Best Book of the Year, a Lamplighter Nominee, a Christy Amplify Award Winner, and a Bank Street Best Book of the Year), *The Luminous Life of Lucy Landry* (recipient of three starred reviews and a glowing feature in *The Banner*), and the forthcoming *The Blossoming Summer*. She is also a journalist, blogger, and seasoned correspondent for *Inside Gymnastics*. Anna Rose is passionate about historical fiction, the Native experience, and writing for children.

Holiday House
9780823462339
Pub Date: 8/25/2026
On Sale Date: 8/25/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

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



Sneaks

Amy Tern

Summary

A missing child and an apartment that *should* be empty spur two tweens to solve an increasingly tangled neighborhood mystery in this page-turning middle grade debut.

This hijinks-heavy mystery written in dual POV reads like *Only Murders in the Building* for tweens. Perfect for wannabe sleuths and nosy neighbors!

Valory has developed an unfortunate reputation as a thief—primarily because she steals things—though she has resolved to change her ways.

Rook is a total asparagus-eater (a.k.a. a good kid), but he likes to spy on his neighbors. Nobody's perfect, right?

The twelve-year-olds form an unlikely alliance when they encounter suspicious behavior in an "empty" apartment across the alley from Rook's house. While agoraphobia keeps home-schooled Rook trapped on his property, confident and street-smart Valory can roam the scene undetected. Their opposite personalities might, in fact, be key to their success.

But their amateur detective mission morphs into something more sinister when they realize the apartment next door could be connected to a recent kidnapping. When the sleuths realize they're also being watched, the pressure is on to unmask the villain... before she snatches them, too.

Contributor Bio

Amy Tern is a freelance editor who worked for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars while writing short stories and nonfiction in her spare time. *Sneaks* is her debut novel. She lives in Virginia with her husband, two book-loving sons, and a petulant gecko.

Author Residence: Virginia

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On Sale Date: 7/7/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

240 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &
Detective Stories
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Find Her

Ginger Reno

Summary

**Five years, three months, and twelve days.
That's how long Wren's mother has been missing.**

**An Edgar Award Nominee
An Oklahoma Book Award Winner**

In dreams, Wren can see her again: her eyes, her hair, her smile. She can even hear her laugh. Her mother, one of hundreds of Native Americans considered missing or murdered in Oklahoma. Sometimes it seems like Wren and her grandmother are the only people still looking. Even more frustrating, Wren's overprotective father won't talk about it.

Wren refuses to give up, though. And an opportunity to find lost pets seems like a real way to hone her detective skills. But everything changes when one of the missing pets is found badly hurt. Soon, there are others.

With help from an unlikely friend, Wren vows to unmask whoever is behind the animal abuse. If she can do this, maybe she can do the same for her mother's case. She'll just have to keep it secret from her father who will certainly put an end to *all* her sleuthing if he finds out.

Find Her explores the crisis of missing Indigenous women from the perspective of a sensitive young Cherokee girl who yearns to find her mother, while also navigating a chilling town mystery, a new friendship, and a family in need of healing.

**A Jane Addams Children's Book Award Finalist
A Rise: A Feminist Book Project Top 10 Title
Named to the Oklahoma Sequoyah Masterlist
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection
Shortlisted for MPIBA's Reading the West Book Award**

Contributor Bio

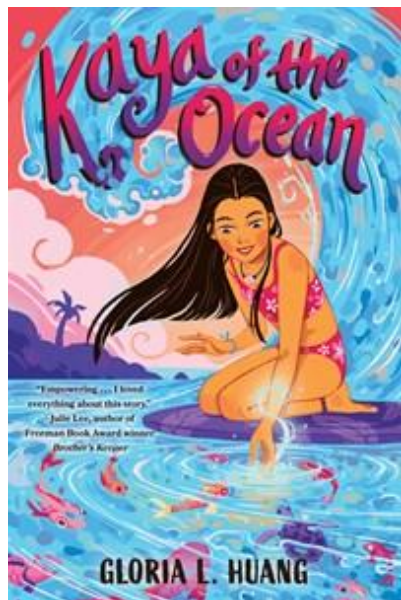
Ginger Reno has always been a writer—it just took a while for her to figure that out. (Her first clue should've been her family always calling her "the wordy one"). An enrolled citizen of the Cherokee Nation, her desire to learn about Cherokee history and culture has naturally spilled over into her writing. *FIND HER*, her debut, is part of that journey. 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

Holiday House
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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

224 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Kaya of the Ocean

Gloria L. Huang

Summary

Anxious thirteen-year-old Kaya has always been afraid of everything—but when she learns she is the descendant of a Chinese water goddess, she'll have to master herself to master her powers!

"Hand to readers of the 'Rick Riordan Presents' series, and tell them this is even better."—*School Library Journal*, Starred Review

On the surface, thirteen-year-old Kaya leads a charmed life. She lives in beautiful, beachy Lihikai. She has ride-or-die best friends. She's ultrasmart and killing it at school. She even works with a super-cute boy at her parents' restaurant.

But she also has anxiety—*serious* anxiety, the kind that makes you scratch and pick—and she's *always* had bad luck around the ocean. It's hard to enjoy Hawaiian beaches when you've almost drowned more than once.

But as stranger and stranger things happen to Kaya around the sea, she realizes that—wanted or not—she has a special connection to it. Waves rise when she's angry. Surf smooths when she's calm. Fish come when she calls them. And when she learns the truth about her family and her divine ancestor, Mazu, she knows that she will need to connect with her most difficult emotions ASAP—or her potent powers may become dangerous to the people she loves.

Kaya of the Ocean is an exciting, fresh, and beautiful middle-grade fantasy about embracing who you really are. This heartfelt adventure of sun, surf, and sand touches on mental health, the immigrant experience, and the complexities of growing up.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

An ABA Indies Introduce Selection

"[A] fantastical debut."—*Kirkus Reviews*

Contributor Bio

Gloria L. Huang is a freelance writer. Her fiction has been accepted for publication in literary journals including *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *The Threepenny Review*, *Chicago Quarterly Review*, *Witness Magazine*, *Massachusetts Review*, *Pleiades*, *Southern Humanities Review*, *Fiction Magazine*, *North American Review*, *Arts & Letters*, *Washington Square Review*, *The Chattahoochee Review*, *Gargoyle Magazine*, *Sycamore Review*, and *The Antigone Review*. She received her B.A. in English Literature from Stanford University.

Author Residence: Palo Alto, CA

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\$8.99

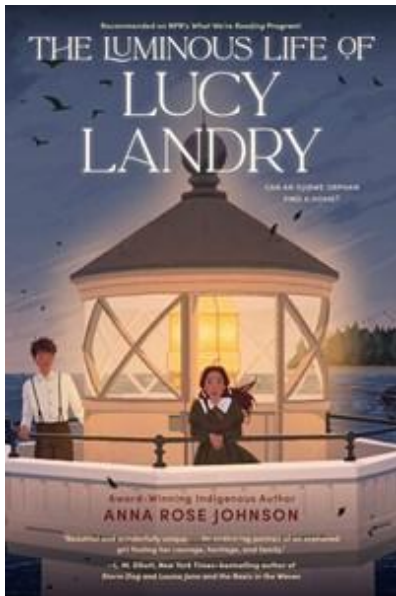
Trade Paperback

224 Pages

Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7

Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



The Luminous Life of Lucy Landry

Anna Rose Johnson

Summary

Lucy, a spirited French-Ojibwe orphan, is sent to the stormy waters of Lake Superior to live with a mysterious family of lighthouse-keepers—and, she hopes, to find the legendary necklace her father spent his life seeking...

Selena Lucy Landry (named for a ship, as every sailor's child should be) has been frightened of the water ever since she lost her father at sea. But with no one else to care for her, she's sent to foster with the Martins—a large Anishinaabe family living on a lighthouse in the middle of stormy Lake Superior.

The Martin family is big, hard-working, and close, and Lucy—who has always been a dreamer—struggles to fit in. Can she go *one day* without ruining the laundry or forgetting the sweeping? Will she *ever* be less afraid of the lake?

Although life at the lighthouse isn't what Lucy hoped for, it *is* beautiful—ships come and go, waves pound the rocks—and it has one major advantage: It's near the site of a famous shipwreck, a shipwreck that went down with a treasure her father wanted more than *anything*. If Lucy can find that treasure—a priceless ruby necklace—won't it be like having Papa back again, just a little bit?

But someone else is hunting for the treasure, too. And as the lighthouse company becomes increasingly skeptical that the Martins can juggle Lucy *and* their duties, Lucy and the Martin children will need to find the necklace quickly—or they may not have a home at all.

The Luminous Life of Lucy Landry is a timelessly sweet tale of found family from rising Ojibwe voice Anna Rose Johnson, author of NPR Best Book of the Year *The Star That Always Stays*. Perfect for fans of L.M. Montgomery and Karina Yan Glaser!

"Lucy Landry is a charming and fanciful heroine reminiscent of Anne Shirley, who reminds us that even in dark times, we can be a light for others."—Alyssa Colman, author of Bank Street Best Book of the Year *The Gilded Girl*

"HEARTWARMING."—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

"TENDER... WHOLESOME."—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

"UNIQUE."—Youth Services Book Review, starred review

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Wisconsin

Holiday House
9780823462735
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On Sale Date: 5/12/2026
\$10.99
Trade Paperback

208 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Native American
8.2 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.5 in T | 0.4 lb Wt



Once They See You

13 Stories to Shiver and Shock

Josh Allen, Sarah J. Coleman

Summary

There's no escaping these deliciously creepy tales of everyday horror, perfect for fans of *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark*.

Once you open this book, you're doomed . . . Cursed to stay up late, savoring every line of these terrifying stories. Go ahead and try to resist. The Night Things won't let you get far.

Master storyteller Josh Allen, hailed as the "heir-apparent to Alvin Schwartz," brings thirteen nightmare scenarios to life in this page-turning collection. From a shiny abandoned bike, to an innocent classroom icebreaker, to a piano recital that requires unusual sacrifices, there's no end to the shocking twists on everyday reality.

In Allen's wondrous world, which looks an awful like our own, danger waits behind every doorway . . . even in the most ordinary places. Kids eager for age-appropriate horror will relish every thrill and chill.

Eerie illustrations by award-winning artist Sarah Coleman accompany the stories, packaged in a stunning hardcover edition complete with a **glow-in-the-dark jacket**. Readers will sleep with one eye open!

Don't miss the author and illustrator's other creepy collections: *Out to Get You* and *Only If You Dare*.

Named to the Maine Student Book Award Reading List

Contributor Bio

Josh Allen checks under his bed before switching off the light each night. During the day, he teaches creative writing and literature at Brigham Young University-Idaho. His debut book for young readers, *Out to Get You*, received two starred reviews and was a Junior Library Guild selection. He lives in Idaho with his family.

Author Residence: Rexburg, ID

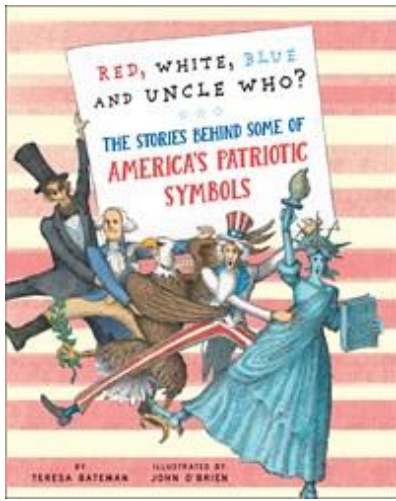
Author Hometown: Utah

Sarah Coleman was an early pioneer of hand lettering and has illustrated covers for many renowned books, including the 50th anniversary edition of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Newbery Honor-winner *Wolf Hollow*. Her design clients range from Coca Cola and Starbucks to the *New York Times*. She lives in the UK.

Illustrator Residence:United Kingdom

Holiday House
9780823464012
Pub Date: 7/28/2026
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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

192 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Short Stories
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Red, White, Blue and Uncle Who?

The Stories Behind Some of America's Patriotic Symbols

Teresa Bateman, John O'Brien

Summary

Discover the secret history behind 17 American patriotic symbols, from the Great Seal to the Washington Monument, in this new and updated edition.

Have you ever wondered how the Liberty Bell got cracked? Did you know the wild turkey almost became the national bird of the United States? And who is Uncle Sam, anyway?

Answer all these questions and many more as you explore the history behind seventeen well-known monuments and symbols of the United States of America—including the Pledge of Allegiance, the Capitol Building and more.

Descriptions of each symbol include the history behind it, the people involved in creating it, and intriguing trivia. Important dates are highlighted, helping to create a timeline of when these patriotic symbols became accepted parts of our nation's history.

John O'Brien's black-and-white cartoon illustrations on nearly every page add a touch of humor to the engaging text. New content includes information about new monuments and symbols, like the Buffalo, as well as a chart on the symbols of all 50 states. An index is also included.

Contributor Bio

Teresa Bateman is an award-winning author and retired school librarian. She has won both the Storytelling World Award and the Anne Izard Storyteller's Award. Her books include *Keeper of Soles*, an ALA Notable Children's Book, and *Job Wanted*, which as nominated for The Washington Children's Choice Award, The New York State Charlotte Award, the Young Hoosier Book Award, and the Virginia Readers' Choice Award. She lives in Washington.

Author Residence: Issaquah, WA

John O'Brien is a cartoonist whose work appears in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and other publications. He is the creator of many children's picture books and the illustrator of many more, including *Washington D.C. from A-Z* by Alan Schroeder.

Holiday House
9780823464135
Pub Date: 5/12/2026
On Sale Date: 5/12/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

80 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Nonfiction / History
10.3 in H | 8.4 in W | 0.5 in T |
1.2 lb Wt



Sustainable Structures

15 Eco-Conscious Buildings Around the World

Kate McMillan

Summary

A stunning illustrated overview of “green” architecture on every continent, packed full of cool STEAM facts and fascinating details.

From a waste collection site built entirely from recycled materials, to a school designed to float during flood season in Bangladesh, this dazzling book highlights innovative and sustainably built structures around the world.

Did you know that “woodscrapers,” or skyscrapers made of wood, can reduce construction waste? How about that termite mounds have served as inspiration for temperature control systems? And believe it or not... there’s a research station built on skis in Antarctica.

Pairing a kid friendly, conversational approach with spectacularly detailed art, Kate McMillan dissects the design of 15 eco-friendly buildings worldwide. The extraordinary structures fall into five categories, each emphasizing a key element of sustainable design: 1) local materials, 2) adaptability, 3) sustainable construction, 4) clean energy, and 5) optimized space.

Readers of all ages will love poring over the precise, colorful illustrations and informative close ups featured on eye catching double-page spreads. Perfect for budding architects and engineers, this book is a work of art!

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

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection
Named to the Green Earth Book Award Short List
An Evanston Public Library Blueberry Honor Book
An ALA Sustainability Round Table Top 10 Selection
An NSTA Best STEM Book
A CBC-NSTA Best STEM Book of the Year

Contributor Bio

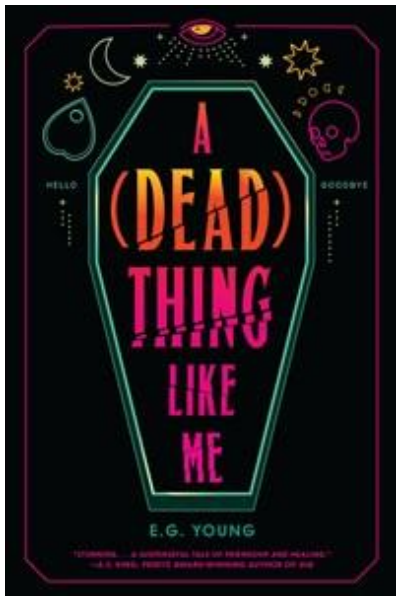
Kate McMillan studied architecture at Yale and Norwegian boat building through the Mortimer Hayes-Brandeis Fellowship. Eventually, she made her way out to Los Angeles where she is a visual development artist for DreamWorks TV. In her free time, she enjoys building furniture and strange instruments, writing, and drawing wobbly buildings that look like they might fall down. This is her debut book for children. Find her on Instagram @katemcmillanart

Author Residence: Los Angeles, CA

- Kids interested in the environment, engineering, architecture, and design
- Fans of *The Way Things Work*, Stephen Biesty's cross section masterpieces, DK Eyewitness books, and other large format nonfiction
- Educators and librarians looking for STEM books with high visual interest and low word count

Holiday House
9780823463992
Pub Date: 8/11/2026
On Sale Date: 8/11/2026
\$12.99
Trade Paperback

80 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Nonfiction / Architecture
Series: Books for a Better Earth
10 in H | 10 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



A (Dead) Thing Like Me

E.G. Young

Summary

A teenage ghost in love with life becomes bound to the house of the grieving artist who summoned her via Ouija board in this darkly funny YA paranormal.

One hot dog with banana peppers. That's all Hot Dog wants. An invisible teenage ghost, she haunts a food cart outside the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Until one night, she's accidentally summoned via Ouija board to a house party in Florida . . . where finally finally finally, people can see her.

All the party guests scatter, except for Logan: the cool artist girl who doesn't just see Hot Dog, she actually wants to *talk* to her. Logan, who isn't scared of Hot Dog's stitched mouth or chattering dress. Logan, who's grieving her own dead BFF—and called Hot Dog by mistake.

Hot Dog wants to prove it's not a mistake.

She can be Logan's new best friend. She can go to Logan's Halloween party. She can eat snacks, have sleepovers, and hang out. She can *definitely* smile without scaring people. Exactly like a real, human girl.

There's one problem: Hog Dog's not a real, living human girl, and something in Logan's sprawling house knows it. It scratches like rats in the walls. It opens a secret door in Logan's attic. It wants to drag Hot Dog into the nothingness where dead things go. And unless Hot Dog can confront the dark truth of how she died, it will unmake Logan too.

Gorgeously strange and stunningly written, this YA paranormal masterfully melds camp and creep into a beyond-the-grave coming-of-age.

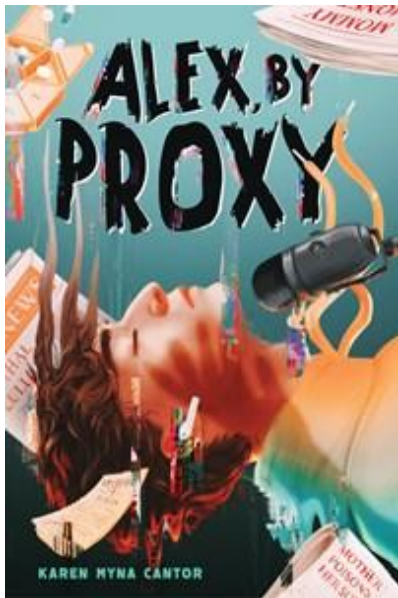
Contributor Bio

E.G. Young is a speculative fiction author living on the Gulf Coast of Florida. In her books, you'll find weird-but-tender vibes, strange girls, dark humor, spookiness, and animals who all live at the end (promise!). She writes 90 percent of her drafts using voice-to-text dictation (shoutout to fellow hypermobile humans). When she's not writing, you'll find her enjoying nature, binging Netflix, or playing with her tabby cat and barkless basenji dog. Emily holds an MFA in Writing for Children & Young Adults from The Vermont College of Fine Arts and is represented by Linda Camacho at Gallt & Zacker Literary Agency. Check out her website at egyongbooks.com.

Author Residence: St. Petersburg, FL

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\$19.99
Hardcover

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



Alex, by Proxy

Karen Myna Cantor

Summary

A Munchausen by proxy victim reveals his deepest secrets on a true-crime podcast—but will his audience believe him, let alone his loved ones?

HARROWING NEW DETAILS IN 'MONSTER MOMMY' CASE... SHOCKING INFORMATION SURFACES AS 'MONSTER MOMMY' CASE HEADS TO TRIAL... HOW COULD A MOTHER POISON HER SON?

Welcome to sixteen-year-old Alex's life, ripped straight from the headlines.

Alex is a victim of Munchausen by proxy, but he's also a witty, sarcastic kid with unusually good crossword skills and a penchant for astronomy. At least he used to be. Now that he's recovered from years of illness induced by his mother, he sort of has to figure out who he is all over again... And most importantly, he'll have to decide if he can testify against the woman who gave birth to him.

As Alex awaits the trial, his friends convince him to start a podcast as a way to tell his story. Together, they create "Lethal Lullaby." The podcast brings Alex closer to his old life—hanging out with friends, cracking jokes, having fun... At the same time, new memories surface and disturbing revelations come out, forcing Alex to acknowledge that the podcast could be making things worse. It seems like he's got deeper issues than he'd like to admit—and this time, he can't blame them on his mom.

Day by day, Alex's mental health crumbles, until he can no longer distinguish between truth and fiction. Should he trust himself to testify? And if he gets up there, what version of the truth will he share?

This breathtaking YA debut is perfect for fans of *Sadie* and *The Act*. Come for the can't-look-away take on true crime, stay for the honest portrayal of mental illness.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Karen Myna Cantor is a mapmaker and former environmental scientist who spent lots of time in a town notorious for "Florida Man" stories. She now lives in Maryland and writes books for teens, drawing upon her experiences of mental illness and growing up queer in the South. *Alex, by Proxy* is her debut novel. Find her online @karenmcantor.bsky.social

Author Residence: Maryland

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Hardcover

320 Pages
Ages 12 And Up, Grades 7 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Thrillers &
Suspense

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Calling Me Home

Laurin Becker Macios

Summary

A beautifully crafted YA novel in verse that follows a 17-year-old girl's backpacking trip across Europe—filled with awe, danger, friendships, and something like love.

Jenny Campbell, recent high school graduate, has spent her unrooted childhood planning for a future she can control: NYU, marketing major, big-city life. But first, a carefully mapped solo backpacking trip through Europe.

Only, the trip doesn't stay on the map. As she travels between countries and memories, Jenny begins to loosen her grip on the life she's scripted. She works at a bookshop in Greece, treks through the Balkans on overnight trains, falls in something-like-love in Rome.

At summer's end, Jenny returns to the States ready to launch her New York City future. And then, she learns she's pregnant. Choosing to end her pregnancy, Jenny tries to keep her plans—but finds she may no longer be the person meant to live them.

Calling Me Home is part classic travel bildungsroman (you can almost taste the ouzo in Greece and feel the wind of Ireland) and part meditation on how abortion is just one piece of a person's story.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Laurin Becker Macios was born in Miami, Florida, and has since called many places home. She is the former Executive Director of Mass Poetry, former Program Director of the Poetry Society of America, and an award-winning poet for adults. *Calling Me Home* is her YA debut.

Author Residence: Connecticut

Author Hometown: Miami, FL

Holiday House
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\$19.99
Hardcover

208 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Coming Of Age

8.5 in H | 5.7 in W | 0.8 in T | 0.7 lb Wt



Left on Read

Marissa Eller

Summary

In this rivals-to-lovers romcom from Marissa Eller, overachiever Nova wants one thing: to be the top student in her school. So when a student who could beat her turns up, she tries to keep her eyes on her own paper... and off this infuriatingly perfect boy.

School is everything to Nova—*literally* everything, since she's missed out on all of the Traditional High School Things in pursuit of academic success. Her senior year is going to be perfect, and so is she... because she's pushing herself to her physical and mental limit. All she needs to do is ignore her mounting anxiety! Which is probably clinical! La la la!

But Hayes—her ultrasmart, ultra-annoying rival for valedictorian—is making her year far less perfect than she imagined.

He's after that top spot, and he doesn't care who he has to shove outside. But when Nova and Hayes are paired up for a group project on student mental health, Nova discovers that he might be the only one who understands what she's going through. The burnout. The self-doubt. The unrelenting grind. Together, they can stand up to the pressures of academia, family, and the way most traveled... if they partner up in more ways than one.

Contributor Bio

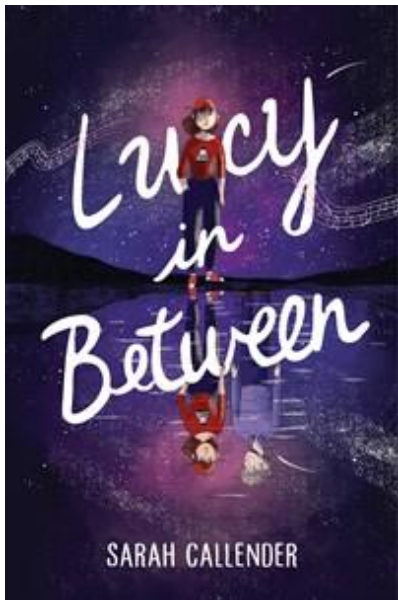
Marissa Eller is a novelist with chronic pain and an abundance of emotions. She holds a BA in English from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and an MFA in Writing from Lindenwood University, which she uses in her work as an academic consultant. She resides in Hickory, North Carolina with her family and two rescue cats, all of whom she couldn't love more if she tried. When not writing, reading, or helping students, she can be found thinking entirely too much about her favorite TV shows, obsessing over a band she's loved since she was fifteen, or enjoying an afternoon nap.

Author Residence: Hickory, North Carolina

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\$19.99
Hardcover

304 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Romance

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Lucy in Between

Sarah Callender

Summary

Things People Ought to Know About Me: After my brother died, I didn't cry.

Thirteen-year-old Lucy Bains is smarter than your average seventh grader, but there is a lot she doesn't understand: how her brother Henry, a seventeen-year-old violin virtuoso, can possibly be depressed when he's one of classical music's brightest rising stars; why her mother is far more interested in Henry's music career than in Lucy's talents as an aspiring mime artist; and why her archeologist father—who left them years ago and now lives in Peru—suddenly wants to come for a visit. And most baffling of all, when did her best friend Charles become someone she might like to kiss?

After Henry dies by suicide, Lucy and her mother—grief-stricken, desperate, and seeking any solace or distraction Lucy's father can provide—escape to Peru. But when a local bookstore owner (and unapologetic poetry pusher), who, like Lucy, is no stranger to grief, proves more present than either of her parents, Lucy must confront some hard truths about love and family, guilt and grief.

With searing prose and a poetic voice, debut author Sarah Callender tackles one of the most difficult losses a family can experience in an unforgettable young adult novel.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Sarah Callendar is a writer, blogger, mental health advocate, and middle school English teacher. She lives in Seattle with her family.

Author Residence: Seattle, WA

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9780823455515
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\$19.99
Hardcover

304 Pages
Ages 12 to 14, Grades 7 to 9
Young Adult Fiction / Coming Of Age

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Banned Together

Our Fight for Readers' Rights

Ashley Hope Pérez, Debbie Fong

Summary

A dazzling YA anthology that spotlights the transformative power of books while equipping teens to fight for the freedom to read, featuring the voices of 15 diverse, award-winning authors and illustrators.

Books are disappearing from shelves across the country.

What does this mean for authors, illustrators, and—most crucially—for young readers?

This bold collection of fiction, memoir, poetry, graphic narratives, essays, and other genres explores book bans through various lenses, and empowers teens to fight back. From moving personal accounts to clever comebacks aimed at censorship, fifteen legendary YA authors and illustrators confront the high-stakes question of *what is lost* when books are kept from teens.

Contributors include Elana K. Arnold, Nikki Grimes, Ellen Hopkins, Kelly Jensen, Brendan Kiely, Maia Kobabe, Bill Konigsberg, Kyle Lukoff, MariNaomi, Trung Lê Nguyễn, Ashley Hope Pérez, Isabel Quintero, Traci Sorell, Robin Stevenson, and Padma Venkatraman; the collection is a star-studded must-read that packs strength and power into every last word.

Striking illustrations from Ignatz-nominated artist Debbie Fong pair perfectly with the searing, impactful narrative. Resources include tips from the Vandegrift Banned Book Club and other teen activists, as well as extensive recommended book lists, a How to Start Your Own Little Free Library flier, and more.

Contributor Bio

Ashley Hope Pérez grew up in Texas and is the author of three award-winning novels for young adults, including *Out of Darkness*, which received a Printz Honor and the Tomás Rivera Book Award—and was one of the top ten most banned books of 2021. Ashley is a former high school teacher and an assistant professor of world literatures at The Ohio State University. In 2023, Ashley was a part of PEN America's lawsuit against Escambia County, Florida. She lives in Columbus with her two sons; find her online at www.ashleyperez.com.

Author Residence: Columbus, OH

Author Hometown: Texas

Debbie Fong is an Ignatz-nominated cartoonist, illustrator, and author living in Brooklyn, NY. She is the author/illustrator of *Next Stop*, and the illustrator of *What Can I Say?* and *How to Be a Person* by Catherine Newman. Debbie is the artist behind POMMO Press, an online shop where she sells colorful prints, stationery, and other fun goods. Find her online at www.debbiefong.com and @pommopress

Illustrator Residence: Brooklyn, NY

Holiday House
9780823464043
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On Sale Date: 5/26/2026
\$12.99
Trade Paperback

320 Pages
Ages 12 And Up, Grades 7 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Social
Themes

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

JOINED AT THE JOINTS



MARISSA ELLER

Holiday House
9780823463701
Pub Date: 8/4/2026
On Sale Date: 8/4/2026
\$12.99
Trade Paperback

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

Joined at the Joints

Marissa Eller

Summary

When baking-obsessed Ivy meets a boy who shares her rare diagnosis, sparks fly *outside* of the kitchen for the first time in her life!

Chronically ill seventeen-year-old Ivy has stayed inside baking all summer—pies are better than people, and *they* don't trigger her social anxiety. So when her (also) chronically ill mom and sister cook up a plan to get Ivy out of the house and into a support group, Ivy doesn't expect to say more than a few words.

And she *certainly* doesn't expect Grant. Grant is CUTE: class-clown cute, perfectly-messy-hair cute, will-always-text-you-back cute. There's an instant connection between them. He has the same illness as her—juvenile rheumatoid arthritis—and he actually *understands* Ivy's world. But just because he understands her pain doesn't mean he can take it away, and she wishes he could... because it's getting worse. Ivy has always tried her best to seem "normal," but between symptom management, new treatment plans, and struggling with medical self-advocacy, being sick feels more and more difficult. With her energy plummeting, even her bestie starts drifting away! What if Grant does, too? Will Ivy's sugar-sweet romance pan out? Can she maintain her façade, for him and for the world... or should she be brave and let it drop?

Marissa Eller serves up a sweet, satisfying romcom that tackles the realities of chronic illness—and coming-of-age milestones from friend breakups to first kisses—with wry humor, tons of heart, and a huge helping of honesty. Nuanced, funny, and deeply enjoyable, readers will fall for Eller's voice in this compelling debut that offers all the right ingredients.

"A sweet and affirming story that embraces the unpredictability of chronic illness."—Anna Sortino, award-winning author of *Give Me a Sign* and *On the Bright Side*

"Will make readers feel seen. A delightful, heartfelt read."—Lillie Lainoff, award-winning author of *One for All*

"The perfect recipe for an affirming and adorable debut."—Claire Forrest, award-winning author of *Where You See Yourself*

Contributor Bio

Marissa Eller is a novelist with chronic pain and an abundance of emotions. She holds a BA in English from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and an MFA in Writing from Lindenwood University, which she uses in her work as an academic consultant. She resides in Hickory, North Carolina with her family and two rescue cats, all of whom she couldn't love more if she tried. When not writing, reading, or helping students, she can be found thinking entirely too much about her favorite TV shows, obsessing over a band she's loved since she was fifteen, or enjoying an afternoon nap.



Nahia

Emily Jones

Summary

A sweeping romantic epic set in the wild and dangerous world of prehistoric Europe!

Spain, 8,000 years ago. As Headwoman's daughter, eighteen-year-old Nahia was born to lead. But when she speaks aloud a forbidden truth—that her people are facing a growing threat of invasion—her expectations are shattered when she's punished with exile and apprenticed to the enigmatic shaman Eneko instead.

With her sister Izara made the new heir and her world upended, Nahia is sent away with a young man she barely knows. Deep in the wilds, however, she uncovers a shocking talent for divining messages from the spirits and channelling their turbulent powers. But these visions come to show her that her people are in terrible danger. . . and they need her. Nahia will have to use every advantage she has to save her beloved people—and her sister.

In this powerful upper YA with crossover appeal, archaeologist Emily Jones transports us to a rugged world of pine forests, frothy beaches, and wild magic, and masterfully depicts passionate first love, conquest, green sorcery, the unbreakable bond between sisters, and untamed, unashamed female power. Utterly unique and shockingly good, this is a knockout debut, perfect for fans of Jean M. Auel, Adrienne Young, Chloe Gong, Claire M. Andrews, and Rachel Griffin.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection!

"BREATHTAKINGLY, BRILLIANTLY NEW... I couldn't put this one down!"—Claire M. Andrews, *Daughter of Sparta*

"ENTHRALLING."—*Publishers Weekly*

"TREMENDOUS... Masterful storytelling."—Dr. William Taylor, Curator of Archaeology and author of *Hoof Beats*

Contributor Bio

Dr. Emily Jones is an archaeologist and a professor of anthropology at the University of New Mexico. She studies the connections between people, food, and the environment in prehistory, particularly in Southwest Europe. Her work has been published in *Antiquity*, *Science*, *Quaternary Research*, and many other journals, and she is the author of a nonfiction academic book, *In Search of the Broad Spectrum Revolution in Paleolithic Southwest Europe*. She has been a Fulbright scholar in Spain and a Chateaubriand Fellow in France. *Nahia* is her fiction debut. Emily enjoys baking, hiking, gardening, yoga, and beekeeping.

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320 Pages
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Young Adult Fiction / Historical
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On Sale Date: 8/11/2026
\$12.99
Trade Paperback

368 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Science
Fiction

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

This Is the Year

Gloria Muñoz

Summary

This dazzling YA cli-fi written in prose and verse will speak to any reader struggling with the state of our world and how to understand their place in it.

"In outer space, no one will know me as the girl with the dead sister."

Seventeen-year-old self-proclaimed Goth and aspiring writer Julieta Villarreal is drowning. She's grieving her twin sister who died in a hit-and-run, her Florida home is crumbling under the weight of climate disaster, and she isn't sure how much longer she can stand to stay in a place that doesn't seem to have room for her.

Then, Juli is recruited by Cometa, a private space program enlisting high-aptitude New American teens for a high-stakes mission to establish humanity's first extraterrestrial settlement. Cometa pitches this as an opportunity for Juli to give back to her adopted country; Juli sees it as her only chance to do something big with her life.

Juli begins her training, convinced Cometa is her path to freedom. But her senior year is full of surprises, including new friendships, roller skating, and first love. And through her small but poignant acts of environmentalism, Juli begins to find hope in unexpected places. As her world collapses from the ramifications of the climate crisis, Juli must decide if she'll carry her loss together with her community or leave it all behind.

Told in gripping prose interspersed with poems from Juli's writing journal, this genre-bending novel explores themes of immigration, climate justice, grief, and the power of communities.

"Muñoz's debut teaches us what it means to be a human on Earth and how we keep surviving—together." —Booklist (starred review)

Contributor Bio

Gloria Muñoz is the author of *Your Biome Has Found You* and *Danzirly*, which won the Ambroggio Prize and the Florida Gold Medal Book Award for Poetry. She is an Academy of American Poets Poet Laureate Fellow, a Hedgebrook Fellow, a Macondista, a Highlights Foundation Diverse Verse Fellow, and a part of Las Musas. *This Is the Year* is her debut novel. Visit her online at gloriamunoz.com and on Instagram at [@bygloriamunoz](https://www.instagram.com/bygloriamunoz).

Author Residence: St. Petersburg, FL



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

René Colato Laínez, Nomar Perez

Summary

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

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

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

I like to climb. Me gusta subir.

I like to slide. Me gusta deslizarme

Perfect for toddlers and a delightful reading experience for bilingual families.

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

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

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

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

Contributor Bio

René Colato Laínez is the author of several bilingual picture books, including *Señor Pancho Had a Rancho, Vamonos! Let's Go!*, and *Playing Lotería*, which was nominated for the Tejas Star Book Award - the K-6 bilingual counterpart to the Texas Bluebonnet Award. 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: Arleta, CA

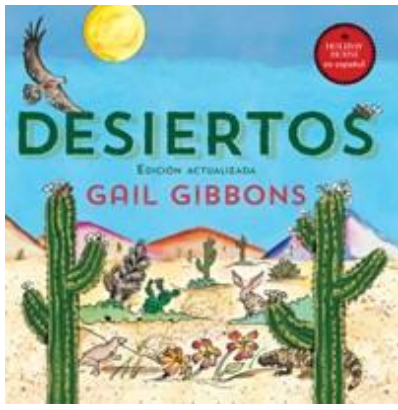
Nomar Perez grew up in Ponce, Puerto Rico, where "an amazing array of colors, sounds, and flavors" influenced his artistic life. He is the illustrator of two 2017 Amazon Best Sellers: *All Day Long, God Loves Me* and *Everywhere I Go, God is With Me*. He is also a staff artist at American Greetings. Nomar currently lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

Illustrator Residence: Cleveland, OH

Illustrator Hometown: Ponce, Puerto Rico

Holiday House
9780823464111
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On Sale Date: 6/9/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

30 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Hispanic & Latino
Series: My Friend, Mi Amigo
6 in H | 4.6 in W | 0.3 lb Wt



Desiertos

Gail Gibbons

Summary

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

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

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

Gail Gibbons is the author of more than 120 acclaimed books for young readers, including the bestselling titles *From Seed to Plant* and *Monarch Butterflies*. Spanish translations of her extensive backlist have received critical acclaim, with *School Library Journal* noting that "educators everywhere are rejoicing because Gibbons's science-themed picture books are being translated into Spanish."

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Corinth, VT

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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

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



El mitón perdido

Jannie Ho

Summary

Conejo and Raton find a mitten! But who could it belong to? Join the two friends as they journey through the forest in this Spanish-language graphic novel for emerging readers

Oh no! A lost red mitten. Conejo and Raton want to return the mitten, but first they'll have to figure out who it belongs to. Ardilla? No. Tejón? Nope. As they continue through the forest and meet new creatures, Conejo and Raton are excited to find the real owner. They're doing a good deed!

But when the time comes, can Conejo give up the mitten? Rojo is his favorite color, after all! With a knowing ear and eye for the moods of young children, Jannie Ho has crafted a tale about doing the right thing (even if it's hard) for young readers with bright colors and cute woodland figures. Simple panels and accessible Spanish vocabulary will aid both Spanish-speaking beginning readers and young Spanish language learners as they enjoy the gentle banter between true friends.

iMe gusta leer!® cómics provides emerging Spanish and bilingual readers and Spanish language learners with translations of popular I Like to Read® Comics titles that are perfect for young comics fans. Filled with eye-catching art, humor, and terrific stories, these comics provide unique reading experiences for growing minds. Like their award-winning iMe gusta leer!® counterparts, these books are created by celebrated artists, translated by native speakers, and vetted by Spanish literacy experts to support reading comprehension and transform children into lifelong readers.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Boston, MA

Author Hometown: Philadelphia, PA

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Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: iMe gusta leer! cómics
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.1 in T | 0.2 lb
Wt



Es la hora

La vida de una oruga

Lizzy Rockwell

Summary

From egg to caterpillar to butterfly! This simple science book is perfect for Spanish-speaking new readers and young Spanish language learners.

A caterpillar hatches, eats, becomes a pupa, weathers storms, and grows into a butterfly before flying away. An elegant, beautifully illustrated life cycle book that kids can read on their own while learning basic Spanish language science vocabulary.

A chart in the back of the book shows the nine stages of the black swallowtail butterfly's development.

iMe gusta leer!® provides emerging Spanish language readers with translations of popular I Like to Read® books. The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarten through first grade. Acclaimed author-illustrators--including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors--create original, high quality illustrations that support comprehension of simple text and are fun for kids to read with parents, teachers, or on their own!

Contributor Bio

Lizzy Rockwell has illustrated more than thirty children's books with Holiday House, several of which have been published in Spanish and bilingual editions. The daughter of highly acclaimed children's book author and illustrator Anne Rockwell and art director and illustrator Harlow Rockwell, Lizzy continues their legacy. She lives in Connecticut.

Author Residence: Connecticut

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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Readers
Series: iMe gusta leer!

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



Un carro nuevo para Pickle

Sylvie Kantorovitz

Summary

Come along with Pickle to find the car that is just right! This silly graphic early reader is now available in Spanish.

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

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

Spanish speaking comics lovers can now share the fun with their kids, students, siblings, and younger friends who are learning to read en español!

iMe gusta leer!® cómics provides emerging Spanish and bilingual readers and Spanish language learners with translations of popular I Like to Read® Comics titles that are perfect for young comics fans. Filled with eye-catching art, humor, and terrific stories, these comics provide unique reading experiences for growing minds. Like their award-winning iMe gusta leer!® counterparts, these books are created by celebrated artists, translated by native speakers, and vetted by Spanish literacy experts to support reading comprehension and transform children into lifelong readers.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Hudson Valley, NY

Author Hometown: France

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40 Pages
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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
Series: iMe gusta leer! cómics
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.1 in T | 0.2 lb
Wt



Veó una rata

Paul Meisel

Summary

Perro's nap is interrupted by an unexpected new friend! From two-time Theodor Seuss Geisel Honoree Paul Meisel, this charming story is now available in Spanish.

Perro is woken up from a nap by a surprising new visitor—Rata! But Perro soon realizes that he and Rata are more alike than he thought. They both love to play! Easy-to-read Spanish text and fun pictures follow Perro and Rata as they become fast friends.

In this companion book to 2020 Me gusta leer® title *Veó un gato*, Paul Meisel brings young readers a new adventure with beloved Perro and a new pet friend.

iMe gusta leer!® provides emerging Spanish language readers with translations of popular I Like to Read® books. The award-winning I Like to Read® series focuses on books for kindergarten through first grade. Acclaimed author-illustrators—including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors—create original, high quality illustrations that support comprehension of simple text and are fun for kids to read with parents, teachers, or on their own!

Contributor Bio

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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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: iMe gusta leer!

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



The Sharing Book

Dianne White, Simone Shin

Summary

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

A hand is perfect for holding.

A smile is just right for hello.

A pinkie is waiting to promise and

FRIENDS, best friends, are for sharing.

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

Contributor Bio

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

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

Margaret Ferguson Books

9780823462872

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On Sale Date: 5/19/2026

\$8.99

Board Book

34 Pages

Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under

Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes

5.5 in H | 7 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.6 lb

Wt



Beatrix and Her Friends

Anne Lambelet

Summary

A Beatrix Potter biography that brings to life the creatures of the natural world she loved and the many endearing animal characters she created.

Beatrix Potter remains one of the most beloved creators of children's books, beginning with *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* in 1902 and continuing through 23 more Little Tale titles.

Potter's stories featured a world of unforgettable animal characters that have entertained youngsters for several generations. But Potter was more than a children's author— she was also an accomplished artist, a forward-looking farmer, and a committed preservationist. In her later years, she helped save over 4,000 acres of farms and wooded areas in the Lake District region of England.

Born in 1866, Beatrix grew up in a big house in London. Her Victorian parents rarely interacted with Beatrix and hesitated to let her associate with other children fearing illness. She was taught at home by governesses. She relished family vacations in the countryside, where she could roam freely in the nearby fields and forests and observe the wonders of nature. Back home, confined mainly to the third floor of the house, Beatrix and her younger brother invented their own entertainment. Over the years, they brought all kinds of animals into their nursery, a veritable zoo. Beatrix, who loved to draw, spent hours every day sketching each creature, especially the mice and rabbits. A favorite among her many animals was the rabbit she named Peter Piper.

Perhaps because of her solitary existence Beatrix developed a rich inner life centered on the animals in their natural habitats and in her imagination. Her children's books evolved from illustrated letters she wrote to the children of her former governess, Annie Moore.

This picture book biography recounts the life of Beatrix Potter in broad strokes with a focus on the joy and comfort she found in her animals, real and imagined. It is a charming book written and illustrated by a bright young talent and it will appear in time for the 160th anniversary of Potter's birth. With the reissue of the Little Tales in 2002, a new generation of children have come to love Beatrix Potter and all her wonderful characters.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Story Locale:United Kingdom

Contributor Bio

Anne Lambelet is a talented young artist who has illustrated over ten picture books, nearly half of which are both written and illustrated by her. Her titles have received starred reviews from *School Library Journal*, *Kirkus Reviews*, and others. She is also the illustrator of books in several of the Margaret Peterson Haddix middle grade fiction series. Her style is very recognizable.

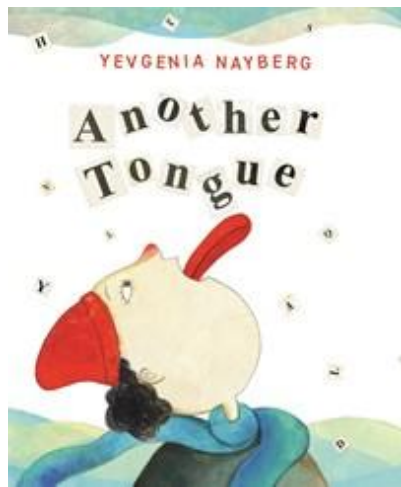
She lives in Philadelphia with her husband and two young sons.

Author Residence: Philadelphia, PA

Author Hometown: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Margaret Quinlin Books
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\$19.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
11.3 in H | 9.4 in W | 0.4 in T |
1.1 lb Wt



Another Tongue

Yevgenia Nayberg

Summary

A rollicking, relatable introduction to the joys and frustrations of learning a new language.

Your first language is often called your “mother tongue.” It’s solid and familiar, just like the tongue inside your mouth; it feels like home.

But what happens when you go to a new place, with a different mother tongue? Muddling through words you can’t understand can be mystifying, overwhelming. Sentences sound strange, letters may even look different. But don’t give up: with plenty of practice and a lot of mistakes, you can end up with two tongues!

Yevgenia Nayberg’s humor-infused prose and larger-than-life illustrations speak playfully to the complexity of learning a language, a process she went through herself when she emigrated from Ukraine. Kids who are currently finding their way in a new language will surely see themselves in *Another Tongue*, but no kid will be left out of this funny, approachable take on the way the words we use, and the way we use them, changes how we see the world.

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 three Sydney Taylor Medals. She is the author/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 titles. Born and raised in Kyiv, Ukraine, she now lives in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Author Hometown: Kyiv, Ukraine

Neal Porter Books

9780823459643

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\$18.99

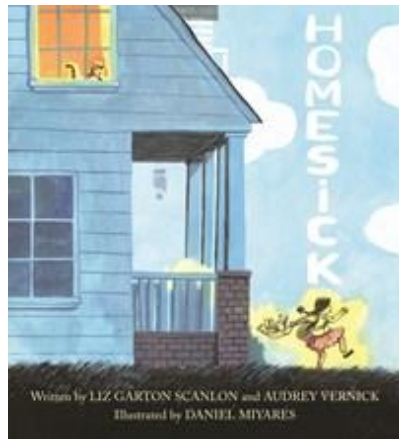
Hardcover

40 Pages

Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Concepts

11 in H | 9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Homesick

Audrey Vernick, Liz Garton Scanlon, Daniel Miyares

Summary

***School's First Day of School* meets *The Little House* in this innovative and heartfelt take on a child's first time sleeping away from home.**

Poppy can't wait to sleep over at G-Pa and Mimi's house for the first time ever. She'll bake bread and gather pinecones and read all the books on their shelves.

But Home? Home feels sick with missing her! Everything is hushed and empty without Poppy. Can Home find distractions to occupy the time until she comes back? And with all the fun she's having, will Poppy start to miss Home, too?

Seasoned children's book creators Liz Garton Scanlon, Audrey Vernick, and Daniel Miyares bring threefold brilliance to *Homesick*, an unforgettable flip on the script of a timeless childhood milestone. Young readers with mixed feelings about being away from home will find soothing levity on each page.

Contributor Bio

Liz Garton Scanlon is the author of numerous beloved books for young people, including the picture books *Everyone Starts Small*, *Kate*, *Who Tamed the Wind*, *One Dark Bird*, the Caldecott Honor book *All the World*, and many more. Her previous co-authored books with Audrey Vernick include *Bob, Not Bob!*, *The World's Best Class Plant*, and *The Family Tree*. She has taught at Austin Community College, the Writing Barn, the Writers' League of Texas, Whale Rock Workshops, and the Vermont College of Fine Arts. She lives and writes in Austin, Texas. Find more at www.LizGartonScanlon.com.

Audrey Vernick is an author of fiction and nonfiction for young readers. Her titles include *The World's Best Class Plant*, *All Star: How Larry Doby Smashed the Color Barrier in Baseball*, *First Grade Dropout*, and the novel *After the Worst Thing Happens*. She is a three-time recipient of the New Jersey Arts Council's writing fellowship, and her books have been translated into over a dozen languages. She lives with her family in New Jersey. Visit her at AudreyVernick.com.

Author Residence: Austin, TX (Garton Scanlon) and New Jersey (Vernick)

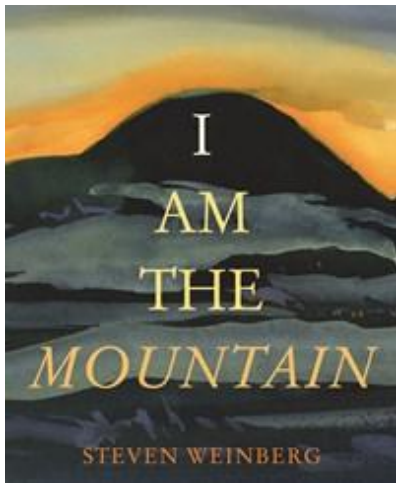
Author Hometown: Colorado (Garton Scanlon) and Whitestone, NY (Vernick)

Daniel Miyares is the critically acclaimed author and illustrator of *Float*, *Night Out*, *That is My Dream*, *Bring Me A Rock!*, and *Hope at Sea*, and the graphic memoir *How to Say Goodbye in Cuban*, among other titles. He is also the illustrator of numerous picture books, like *Big and Small* and *In-Between* by Carter Higgins and *The Boy Who Dreamed of Infinity* by Amy Alznauer. He lives in Kansas with his wife, their two children, and a dog named Violet.

Illustrator Residence: Lenexa, KS

Neal Porter Books
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\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
10 in H | 9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



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\$19.99
Hardcover

56 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &
Recreation

11.3 in H | 9.4 in W | 0.4 in T |
1.3 lb Wt

I Am the Mountain

Steven Weinberg

Summary

A mountain introduces itself to young visitors through all five senses in this vibrant watercolor book of seasons.

Meet the narrator of this book: the mountain. It's cold and windy up here, so you might want to shut your eyes; you don't need them to see the mountain best, anyway.

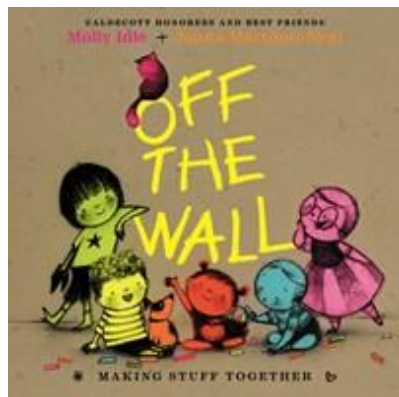
Stay with the mountain for all four seasons, and you can truly get to know it. See the mountain with your hands in the winter, digging in the snow. With your nose in the spring, breathing in the rain and mud. With your ears in the summer, when the birds caw caw and thunder booms, and in autumn, with your tongue, biting into sweet apples and earthy mushrooms.

Steven Weinberg brings his acclaimed watercolor painting together with his award-winning writing for children in this immersive, electric ode to the wild world.

Contributor Bio

Steven Weinberg is a writer, illustrator, and painter whose children's books have won awards and distinctions such as the Virginia Reader's Choice Award (*You Must Be This Tall*), YALSA Reader's Choice (*To Timbuktu*), the Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection (*Astronuts: Mission One* and *The Middle Kid*), *The Today Show's* Holiday Pick (The Big Job series), and *Parents Magazine* Best Children's Book 2021 (*Washer & Dryer's Big Job*). With his wife Casey Scieszka, he owns and operates the Spruceton Inn: a Catskills Bed and Bar. Their annual artist residency has hosted more than a hundred artists and counting.

Author Residence: West Kill, NY



Off the Wall

Making Stuff Together

Juana Martinez-Neal, Molly Idle

Summary

A story about art, collaboration, and happy accidents from your favorite duo of Caldecott Honorees, Molly Idle and Juana Martinez-Neal.

Best friends Juana Martinez-Neal and Molly Idle know a thing or two about collaborative art. After teaming up to illustrate Julie Fogliano's *I Don't Care*, they set out to explore what it takes to make stuff together!

Off the Wall is a joyful celebration of that very process. The day begins with one little girl, alone with a wall and a bucket of chalk. Then a friend comes along to play tic-tac-toe. Before you can say "look out!", there are five friends, a cat, a dog, and a splattered ice cream cone. Chalk is flying, hands are getting dirty, and the art on the wall gets bigger and, more importantly, better.

Little artists and creative types of all ages will delight in the messmaking of a story that builds and builds to reveal what true friends make when they create together. *Off the Wall* reminds readers of the magic that happens when we play, experiment, and welcome the unexpected.

Contributor Bio

Molly Idle's work as an author-illustrator includes the Caldecott Honor book *Flora and the Flamingo*, *Tea Rex*, *Coral*, and *Pearl*, among many other titles. With Juana Martinez-Neal, she is co-illustrator of *I Don't Care*, written by Julie Fogliano. She lives with her family in Arizona, and invites you to visit her at idleillustration.com.

Author Residence: Arizona

Juana Martinez-Neal is the author and illustrator of the Caldecott Honor 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. She is a co-illustrator of *I Don't Care*, written by Julie Fogliano. She lives in Connecticut with her family. Visit her online at www.juanamartinezneal.com.

Illustrator Residence: Connecticut

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Hardcover

56 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Imagination & Play

10 in H | 10 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Sixteen Games of Hide and Seek

Stephen Barr, Steve Teare

Summary

A father and son play hide and seek, but the game gets a bit too real when a thunderstorm rolls in.

Play is how children make sense of the world, and hide and seek is no exception. Readers of any generation will immediately recognize the negotiations that go on in this family's games: Dad should seek, but shouldn't find his son Ro too fast. Siblings always spill the beans if they see you hide. And no one is as good a finder as Mom.

But sometimes you find a hiding place that is really, really hidden. And if a loud storm kicks up outside, seeming to hiss your name, you might wonder if Dad is ever going to find you. Is he even still looking?

Sixteen Games of Hide and Seek is an effortlessly funny and gloriously relatable family yarn with an ending like a reassuring hug, as Dad affirms that Ro is never forgotten and always safe. Steve Teare's part-comic, part-painterly illustrations amplify all the humor and warmth of Stephen Barr's story. Youngsters still trying to figure out how much independence they're quite ready for, and the grown-ups supporting that journey, will return to this book often.

Contributor Bio

Stephen Barr is a longtime literary agent at Writers House, and the author of the picture books *If This Were the World* illustrated by AG Ford, and *The Upside Down Hat*, illustrated by Gracey Zhang and named a New York Times Best Illustrated Book of the Year. Stephen grew up near Disneyland in Southern California; he now lives in Brooklyn with his wife, son, and daughter.

Author Residence: Brooklyn, NY

Author Hometown: Southern California

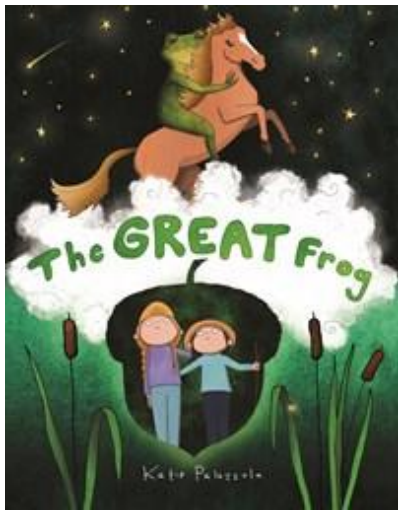
Steve Teare's comics and drawings have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Believer*, *The Nib*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, VICE and elsewhere. He lives in Northwest Philadelphia with his wife, their daughter, and a dog called Pickles.

Illustrator Residence: Philadelphia, PA

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Hardcover

48 Pages
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Juvenile Fiction / Humorous
Stories

10.3 in H | 10.3 in W | 0.5 in T |
1.1 lb Wt



Neal Porter Books
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\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
11.3 in H | 8.8 in W | 0.4 in T |
0.9 lb Wt

The Great Frog

Katie Palazzola

Summary

The grounded magic of Miyazaki meets a timeless sibling adventure story in this account of legend, truth, and the overlap thereof.

When Kit's little brother Peedie worries for the safety of a cluster of frog eggs they find by the pond, Kit tosses out an easy reassurance: the Great Frog will look after them.

In the following days, though, Peedie's questions keep the tall tale growing bigger. Now, Kit tells him, the Great Frog has a horse in the stars and a castle on the moon, a fountain and a garden and a lasso. And pretty soon Peedie is sure the Great Frog will visit any day now.

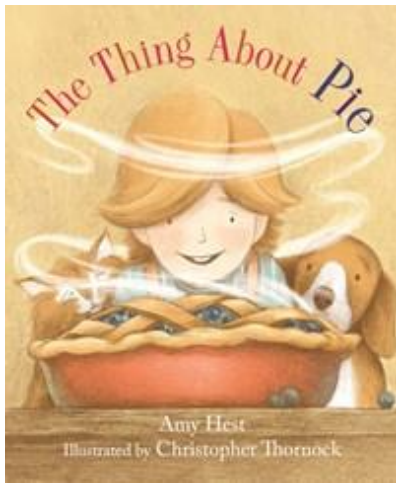
But when Kit at last comes clean that she made it all up, Peedie isn't upset like she feared. Just because something is a story, he points out, doesn't mean it's not true; and there are still protectors of the small in the world.

Dreamy, timeless, and deeply philosophical in the way all four-year-olds are, *The Great Frog* deftly captures the bond between a big sister trying to get things right and a little brother who knows she can do no wrong. Katie Palazzola's thoughtful, funny text and lush illustrations are a treat for siblings, worriers, and nature lovers alike.

Contributor Bio

Katie Palazzola is a picture book author, artist, and poet. She studied Creative Arts Therapy at the New School and has worked as an art teacher, research analyst, and children's literature collection development specialist. Katie lives in a little purple house in St. Louis, Missouri, with her husband, daughter, and dog.

Author Residence: St. Louis, MO



The Thing About Pie

Amy Hest, Christopher Thornock

Summary

As homey as its subject, a sweet tribute to America's favorite dessert and the love that gets baked into it.

This is just about the perfect day: a morning in the kitchen baking, a bike ride across town with a fresh pie in the basket, and Grampa waiting to share warm slices in the park.

Three-time Christopher Award winner Amy Hest narrates in the second person, allowing young readers to identify with the protagonist's burgeoning independence—taking the lead in the kitchen and center stage at a picnic.

Illustrator Christopher Thornock renders these simple joys, unplugged and screen-free, in warm, sunlight-washed tones. *The Thing About Pie* is the perfect book to share at bedtime, circle time, or in the park with a snack.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Amy Hest's many acclaimed children's books include *Bunny Should Be Sleeping*, the *New York Times* bestseller *Kiss Good Night*, *Buster and the Baby*, *On The Night Of The Shooting Star*, *Big Bear and Little Bear Go Fishing*, and *Sometimes It's Nice To Be Alone*. A three-time winner of the prestigious Christopher Award, she lives in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Author Hometown: Long Island, NY

Christopher Thornock is an illustrator, artist, and professor of illustration. The illustrator of *Brave Old Blue*, written by Colleen Muske, he lives with his family and their cats and dogs in the Mountain West of the USA.

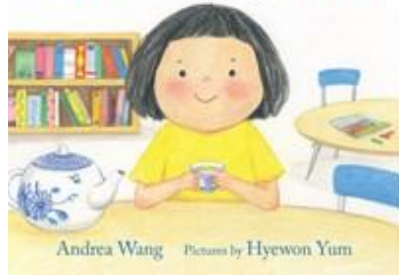
Illustrator Residence:Utah

Illustrator Hometown:Western USA

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\$18.99
Hardcover

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

Luli and the Language of Tea



Luli and the Language of Tea

Andrea Wang, Hyewon Yum

Summary

Though they may speak different languages, kids from all over the world come together to enjoy the shared pastime of tea in this delicious book for young readers.

When five-year-old Luli joins her new English as a Second Language class, the playroom is quiet. Luli can't speak English, neither can anyone else. That's when she has a brilliant idea to host a tea party and bring them all together.

Luli removes her teapot, thermos, and teacups from her bag and calls out "Chá!" in her native Chinese. One by one, her classmates pipe up in recognition: in Russian, Hindi, Turkish, Persian, Arabic, and Spanish, Portuguese, and Swahili. Tea is a tasty language they all know well, and it gives them a chance to share and enjoy each other's company. When all the tea is gone and it's time for dessert, Luli gets to use her favorite English word, cookie! After that, the playroom isn't so quiet.

Informed by her own experience as the child of Chinese immigrant parents, Andrea Wang makes the point that when you're looking to communicate with people, you look for a common bond. The word for "tea" is similar in many languages, and tea becomes the unifying metaphor that brings a diverse group of children together. Additional material at the back of the book explores the rich and ancient history of tea drinking across cultures all around the world and contains maps, statistics, and fascinating details that will delight young readers.

Now in paperback!

**An American Library Association Notable Children's Book
A Booklist Editors' Choice Selection
A CSMCL Best Multicultural Children's Book of the Year**

Contributor Bio

Andrea Wang is the award-winning author of *Watercress*, illustrated by Jason Chin, which Kirkus called "Understated, deep, and heart rending" in a starred review. She is also the author of *The Nian Monster* and *Magic Ramen: The Story of Momofuku Ando* as well as the forthcoming middle-grade novel, *The Many Meanings of Meilan*. Andrea holds an M.S. in Environmental Science and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing for Young People. She lives in Colorado with her family.

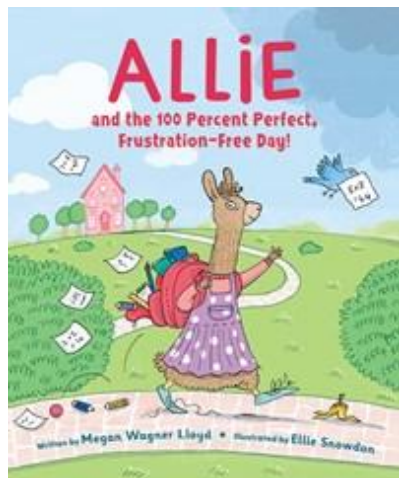
Author Residence: Colorado

Hyewon Yum is the author and illustrator of many acclaimed books for children, including *Not Little*, written by Maya Myers (Neal Porter Books, 2021). Other books include *This Is Our House*, *The Twins' Blanket*, *There Are No Scary Wolves*, and *Last Night*. Her book *Mom, It's My First Day of Kindergarten!* received the Ezra Jack Keats New Illustrator Award. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her family.

Illustrator Residence: Brooklyn, New York

Neal Porter Books
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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
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Juvenile Fiction / Asian American
& Pacific Islander
9.5 in H | 9.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Peachtree
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On Sale Date: 7/28/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes

11 in H | 9 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Allie and the 100 Percent Perfect, Frustration-Free Day!

Megan Wagner Lloyd, Ellie Snowdon

Summary

Allie is a little alpaca with big dreams: to make sure that each day is absolutely perfect in absolutely every way. That doesn't seem too much to ask . . . does it?

Allie greets each day with a grin. This, she tells herself, is a NEW day. A promising day. And it will be a 100 PERCENT PERFECT, FRUSTRATION-FREE day!

Too bad reality doesn't cooperate. Determined to master multiple skills, from tying her shoes to drawing an amazing picture to baking incredible cookies, Allie fails again and again, stomping and groaning and grumbling and moaning. Intent upon perfection, Allie misses a lot of fun along the way. Fortunately, little brother Alfie is there to remind her to laugh at herself and enjoy the process of getting to be pretty good. But not perfect.

Sometimes finding the funny can make everything feel just a little more sunny. And some days can feel just about perfect, regardless of what happens.

Contributor Bio

Megan Wagner Lloyd decided she wanted to be a writer when she was eight years old. That turned out pretty well. Today, she is the author of picture books and graphic novels, including the Indie bestseller *Squished*, the *Super Pancake* series, and the Indie bestseller, Eisner-nominated *Allergic*.

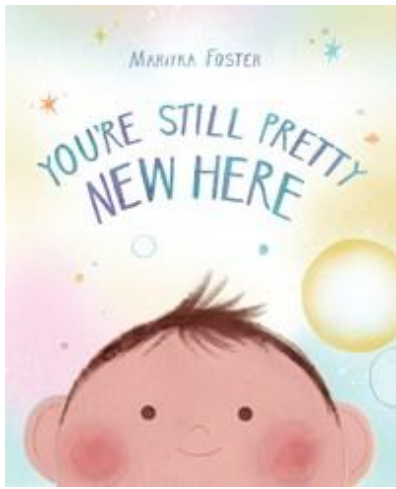
Author Residence: Arlington, Virginia

Author Hometown: Salt Lake City, Utah

Ellie Snowdon lives by the sea in South Wales, UK. After completing her drawing degree at Bristol, she picked up her pens and pencils and moved to Cambridge to study children's book illustration, where she was twice highly commended for the Macmillan Prize. Since then, Ellie has developed a real love for creating characters . . . the good, the bad, and the downright odd!

Illustrator Residence: Swansea, South Wales, UK

Illustrator Hometown: Swansea, South Wales, UK



You're Still Pretty New Here

Mariyka Foster

Summary

This adorable picture book about parenting new babies makes a perfect read for bedtime and is a great gift for any nursery!

Follow along as a brand-new baby is filled in on all the adventures that happened before they were born, from their ancestors to a time before humans existed. With silly humor and sweet vignettes of family, this brightly illustrated tale celebrates parents of many backgrounds and gently reassures them that previous generations had to figure it all out, too. An optimistic and heartwarming story about parents and their babies learning new things together!

Contributor Bio

Mariyka Foster is a children's author and illustrator. She graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design with a degree in illustration and currently works at Carter's illustrating graphics and repeat patterns for their pajamas. Her first book for children was *Leo and the Pink Marker*. She lives in Georgia with her husband and their fluffy bobtail cat, Jasper.

Author Residence: Georgia

Author Hometown: Georgia

Peachtree
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On Sale Date: 5/12/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 3 to 6, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Family
11.3 in H | 9.3 in W | 0.4 in T | 1
lb Wt



The Sweet Spot

Elaine Vickers

Summary

A home run of a novel about baseball and belonging, from the acclaimed author of *Half Moon Summer*.

Twelve-year-old Trip's summer to-do list has exactly one thing on it: win the local Little League championship. But then Dad unexpectedly deploys overseas just before the season starts. And Sam (short for Samantha) joins the team, which changes more than just the line-up.

Suddenly nothing feels right at home or on the field—the two places he's always belonged.

The season isn't what he imagined, but Trip sticks with it. Until news about Dad leaves him convinced that he has to choose between family and baseball. Feeling more unsure than ever about who he's supposed to be and where he belongs, Trip makes an impossible decision. But what if he doesn't need to choose at all?

Fast-paced and player-focused, *The Sweet Spot* highlights the challenges of being a passionate athlete and a compassionate person at the same time.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

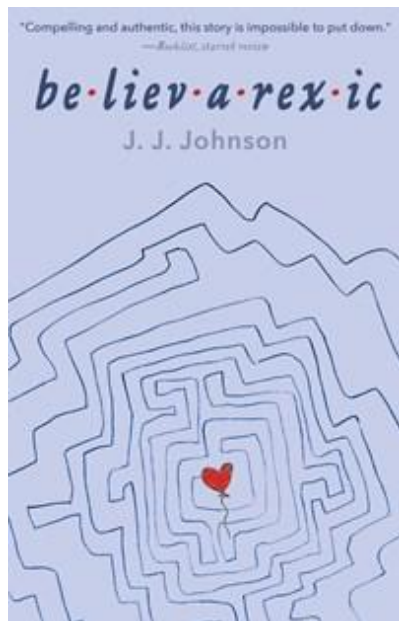
Elaine Vickers is an award-winning author of picture books, middle grade, and young adult novels that aim to help readers of all ages find connection and belonging, including *Half Moon Summer*. She grew up in a small town in the Utah desert, where she spent her time reading, exploring, and playing sports—including one season of T-ball. Several years and one PhD later, she found her way back to her hometown, where she now spends her time writing, exploring with her family, and teaching college chemistry.

Author Residence: Cedar City, Utah

Author Hometown: Cedar City, Utah

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\$18.99
Hardcover

224 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.9 in T | 0.8
lb Wt



Believarexic

J.J. Johnson

Summary

Asking for help is only the first step.

Jennifer can't go on like this—binging, purging, starving, and all while trying to appear like she's got it all together. But when she finally confesses her secret to her parents and is hospitalized, her journey is only beginning.

As Jennifer progresses through her treatment, she learns to recognize her relationship with food, and friends, and family—and how each is healthy or unhealthy. She has to learn to trust herself and her own instincts, but that's easier than it sounds. She has to believe—after many years of being a believarexic.

Using her trademark dark humor and powerful emotion, J. J. Johnson tells an inspiring story based on her own experience when she was hospitalized for an eating disorder as a teenager. The innovative format using blank verse and prose, changes in tense and voice, and forms, workbooks, and journal entries mirror Jennifer's progress toward a healthy body and mind.

Contributor Bio

J. J. Johnson grew up in Norwich, a small town in central New York. After recovering from an eating disorder in high school, Johnson attended Binghamton University and then earned a Master of Education from Harvard. The author of three acclaimed young adult novels, Johnson lives in North Carolina, where she works with neurodivergent and historically marginalized teens. There is a Little Free Library in her front yard.

Author Residence: Norwich, New York

Author Hometown: Durham, North Carolina

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Trade Paperback

480 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Social
Themes

8.5 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 in T | 1.1
lb Wt



Between Sun and Shadow

Laura Genn

Summary

Hades and Persephone reimagined on a tidally locked planet, for fans of queer romance, mutant superpowers, eccentric robots, and speculative tech.

Featuring fun and stylish case art beneath the hardcover dust jacket!

Sixteen-year-old Kori struggles to be a dutiful heiress to the Daylands, a post-cataclysmic society reliant on chip implants to retain memory. With a strict routine and an overly cautious mother, Kori has only one friend, Aspect—an industrial robot she’s repurposed. Determined to awaken sentience in her metal companion, Kori crash-lands in enemy territory while hunting for a memory that might do the trick.

Ravaged by radiation from a meteorite, the citizens of the Shadowlands have evolved into beast-like creatures with supernatural abilities. Adria, a winged mutant, has wrested control of the Shadowlands from her bloodthirsty parents—but not everyone is so willing to embrace her leadership. What better way to instill confidence in her court than by capturing a foreign princess and demanding ransom?

However, what began as a political maneuver transforms into a potent attraction as Kori’s longing for relationship echoes Adria’s own. Granted free rein of Adria’s fortress, Kori stumbles upon a startling revelation that could upend the Daylands entirely. As rebellion grows and Adria’s precarious hold on her throne wavers, Adria and Kori must join forces to avert all-out war. Does a queen of shadows really stand a chance with a princess of sunlight? Or has the chasm between their nations grown too wide?

A science fantasy "Beauty and the Beast," this action-packed adventure is written in dual point of view and layered with a charming robot, a cuddly three-headed dog, mind-bending twists, and sapphic yearning.

Contributor Bio

Laura Genn writes about queer teens confronting fantastical challenges. She graduated with a BS in strategic communication and enjoys building with LEGO® bricks, having TV marathons, and playing competitive Street Fighter. She lives with her girlfriend and three goofy rescue cats somewhere in New Jersey, surrounded by an ever-growing collection of dragon tchotchkes. Follow her on Instagram and Threads @lauragennauthor.

Author Residence: New Jersey

Author Hometown: New Jersey

Peachtree Teen
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Hardcover

464 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Science Fiction

8.3 in H | 5.6 in W | 1.6 in T | 1.4 lb Wt



The Hyacinth Labyrinth

Jamie Paction

Summary

"There's nothing more perfect than stories about girls with swords and tiny dragons!" —CG Drews, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Don't Let The Forest In* and *Hazelthorn*

PREORDER NOW to receive the stunning hardcover edition with a gorgeous printed case and beautifully designed interior map!

A whimsical adventure full of magic, fantastical road trips, and a sapphic slow-burn, friends-to-lovers romance—for fans of *Sorcery of Thorns* and *Emily Wilde's Encyclopaedia of Faeries*.

All magic begins in stories. That's what Fae princess Hyacinth has always been told. As the unmagical daughter of Queen Mab, Hyacinth has never fit in at her mother's court. She hopes that if she learns about her father, who disappeared fifteen years ago, she can finally learn more about herself.

When Hyacinth and her friend Chloe—a human stablehand trapped in Fae—sneak off to a riverside night market, Hyacinth learns that her father was last seen heading to a library at the heart of a treacherous labyrinth. The problem: The labyrinth was built long ago by three goddesses, and no one has ever returned from it.

Still, Hyacinth has to try.

With the help of Chloe and a tiny dragon named Coffee, she defies Queen Mab and sets off into the wilds of the Moonshadow Kingdom. Along the way they face bandits, magical creatures, a centuries-old human who hosts an Endless Ball, and Hyacinth and Chloe's growing feelings for each other. Meanwhile, an ancient power lies in wait at the center of the labyrinth, and it is eager to write the girls' ending.

A lush, fairycore, sapphic YA fantasy that returns readers to the Fae world introduced in Jamie Paction's bestselling novel *The Absinthe Underground*!

"Like a faerie spell, *The Hyacinth Labyrinth* will ensorcell readers with its lush atmosphere; swashbuckling heroines; and sweet, slow-burn romance." —Allison Saft, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Wings of Starlight*

Perfect for readers who love Sapphic Slow-Burn, Friends-to-Lovers, Grumpy/Sunshine, Princess/Lady Knight, Bodyguard Romance, Fae/Human Relationships, Only One Bed, and Stories Are Magic!

Contributor Bio

Jamie Paction is a bestselling, award-winning author who grew up minutes away from the International Storytelling Center in the mountains of East Tennessee. She has a BA and MA in English literature, and she currently teaches English at the college level. Her YA fantasy novels include *The Absinthe Underground*, an instant national bestseller. Her YA contemporary books include *Furious*, *Lucky Girl*, and *The Life and (Medieval) Times of Kit Sweetly*. Her adult fantasy romance debut, *Homegrown Magic*, published in 2025.

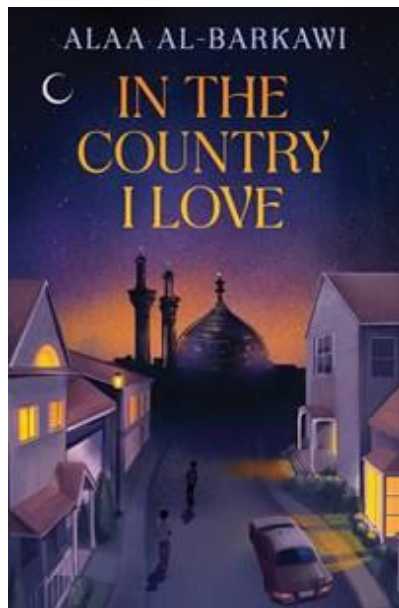
Find her online at JamiePaction.com and @JamiePaction.

Author Residence: Portland, Oregon

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Young Adult Fiction / LGBTQ+
8 in H | 5.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Author Hometown: Johnson City, Tennessee



In the Country I Love

Alaa Al-Barkawi

Summary

Two Iraqi American best friends—a struggling teen father and the community's golden boy—confront dark truths about their families in the wake of a devastating crime in this heartrending YA debut.

As a seventeen-year-old single dad and a soon-to-be high school drop-out, Yassir Al-Azzawi's lapsed Shia faith is just another thing convincing his parents he's a failure. One more mistake, and they'll send him back to their homeland, a war-torn Iraq.

Khaled Al-Hakim is perfect on paper: devout in his faith, a straight-A student, and captain of the debate team. But beneath the surface, Khaled is no saint either, and his worst sin yet is ignoring his parents' command to stay away from Yassir.

When their secret friendship is exposed, the consequences set off a series of events that cause family secrets from both sides to come to light, and neither Yassir nor Khaled are prepared to learn the stains that taint their family names.

Told through multiple POVs across time, this authentic exploration of the Shia Muslim experience in the U.S. seamlessly combines classic YA themes of identity, coming-of-age, and relationships with timely social themes of racism, Islamophobia, and justice. This compelling, contemporary debut is perfect for fans of Sabaa Tahir's *All My Rage* and Markus Zusak's *The Book Thief*.

Contributor Bio

Alaa Al-Barkawi is a first-generation, Iraqi American Shia Muslim writer. She is the co-runner of QuillersSWANA, a literary organization dedicated to Southwest Asian and North African writers, and serves as a Literary Peace Ambassador for Threads of Peace. Alaa holds a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University and has worked with refugee and immigrant students for nearly a decade. *In the Country I Love* is her debut novel. Visit her website at AlaaWrites.com and follow her on Instagram @AlaaAlBarkawi.

Author Residence: Utah

Author Hometown: Utah

Peachtree Teen
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\$19.99
Hardcover

384 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Social
Themes

8 in H | 5.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



The Lustrous Dark

Loretta Chefchaoui

Summary

PREORDER NOW to receive the striking deluxe hardcover edition featuring stenciled edges, illustrated endpapers, and foil jacket effects!

For fans of Sabaa Tahir and Guillermo del Toro comes *The Lustrous Dark*, a sweeping YA fantasy, in which a young midwife's apprentice rises up to take back the power that's been stolen from women.

Orphaned as a baby, Shay has spent her life training as the midwife's apprentice. Her role grants her stability, yet Shay has always yearned for more. Namely, motherly affection and answers regarding her mysterious birth—neither of which the midwife deems practical to provide.

After Shay discovers her birth mother, Hind, is still alive and addicted to a magical drug called Snow, she determines to get the woman clean. But when Hind betrays Shay to get her hands on more Snow, Shay's abandoned within a deadly forest and forced to rely on a band of monstrous ghouls for safety.

Shay's realm has long stood on the brink of war between the men who control magic and the revolutionaries who want to eliminate it. But in the forest, Shay hears the pleading call of ancient spirits who claim that not only has magic been stolen, but Shay has the power to return it. With the help of a spitfire revolutionary and the boy who's winning over her heart, Shay discovers the horrific truth of who produces Snow and will have to decide for herself whether to heed the spirits' charge or fade into obscurity.

This emotionally raw and gorgeously rendered fairy tale combines the lush worldbuilding of *This Woven Kingdom* with the mother trauma of *Snow White* and a dash of Tim Burton. Steeped in mysticism and mythology, *The Lustrous Dark* confronts injustices against women with a righteous scream that'll inspire readers to rally against the patriarchy and oppressive regimes worldwide.

Perfect for readers who love Political Revolutions, Fighting the Patriarchy, Toxic Mothers, Reawakening the Gods, Ancient Magic, Bone-Chilling Monsters, Haunted Forests, Female Friendships, Fairy Tale Retellings, and Cinnamon Roll Love Interests.

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Contributor Bio

Loretta Chefchaoui is a former early childhood educator from Florida who writes for teens. Her fantastical tales turn grief and fear into myth and monsters and explore all the scary parts of being human within the safe space of stories. She is an alum of the Pitch Wars mentorship program and the Highlights Foundation's Muslim Storytellers Fellowship. *The Lustrous Dark* is her debut novel. Instagram: @LoreChefWrites

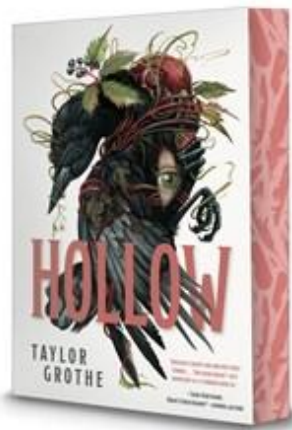
Author Residence: Tampa, Florida

Author Hometown: Tampa, Florida

Peachtree Teen
9781682638378
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On Sale Date: 5/19/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

368 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Fairy Tales & Folklore

9 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Hollow

Taylor Grothe

Summary

***Don't Let the Forest In* meets *The Whispering Dark* in a queer YA cult horror following a recently diagnosed autistic teen who becomes enmeshed in a community of outcasts harboring sinister secrets.**

"One of the best horror novels of the year, full stop. Haunting, heartfelt, and downright creepy." —**Kamilah Cole, bestselling author of *So Let Them Burn***

After a meltdown in her school cafeteria prompts an unwanted autism diagnosis, Cassie Davis moves back to her hometown in upstate New York, where her mom hopes the familiarity will allow Cassie to feel normal again. Cassie's never truly felt normal anywhere, but she does crave the ease she used to have with her old friends.

Problem is that her friends aren't so eager to welcome her back into the fold. They extend an olive branch by inviting her on their backpacking trip to Hollow Ridge, in the upper reaches of the Adirondacks. But when a fight breaks out their first night, Cassie wakes to a barren campsite—her friends all gone.

With severe weather approaching and nearing sensory overload, Cassie is saved by a boy named Kaleb, who whisks her away to a compound of artists and outcasts he calls the Roost. As Kaleb tends to her injuries, Cassie begins to feel—for the first time in her life—that she can truly be herself. But as the days pass, strange happenings around the Roost make Cassie question her instincts. Noises in the trees grow louder, begging the question: Are the dangers in the forest, on the trail, or in the Roost itself?

In a world where autistic characters rarely get to be the hero of their own stories, Cassie Davis's one-step-back, two-steps-forward journey to unmasking makes *Hollow* as much a love letter to neurodiversity as it is a haunting tale you'll want to read with the lights on.

Read if You Love:

- **Don't Go in the Woods**
- **Deadly Road Trips**
- **CottageGORE**
- **Malevolent Masks**
- **Cults**
- **Nerd-core**
- **Wound-tending**
- **First Love**

Story Locale:Upstate, New York, Adirondacks

Series Overview: "One of the best horror novels of the year, full stop. Haunting, heartfelt, and downright creepy, this punched me in the face and stole my lunch money and all I could say was thank you." —**Kamilah Cole, bestselling author of *So Let Them Burn***

"An eerie and unsettlingly atmospheric debut, Taylor Grothe balances the tension of slow creeping horror with the distressing experience of unmasking, asking us to confront who we truly are when we strip away the weight of other's expectations—no matter how painful." —**K. M. Enright, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Mistress of Lies***

Peachtree Teen
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\$12.99
Trade Paperback

384 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Horror
8 in H | 5.3 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

"Both heartfelt and haunting, Taylor Grothe strikes the perfect balance between an immersive coming-of-age story and a chilling horror. Cassie is a heroine who you cannot help but love, protect, and root for— and who I would definitely follow into the shadowy woods" —**Lyndall Clipstone, author of *Lakesedge* and *Tenderly, I am Devoured***

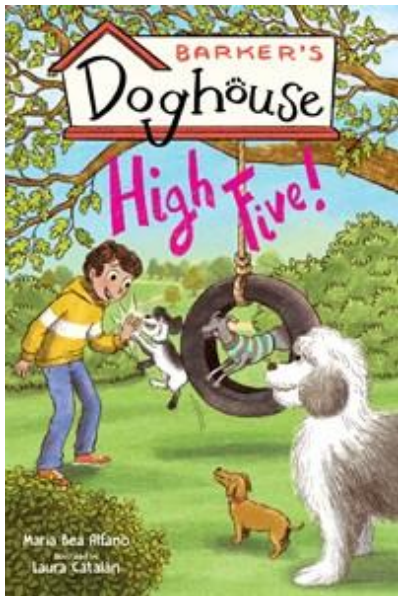
"Bone-chilling, haunting, and hopeful, *Hollow* is the kind of book that will leave you wanting to sleep with the lights on while simultaneously holding your hand in the dark. Cassie Davis may not think she's a hero, but she will be one for teen readers for years to come." —**De Elizabeth, author of *This Raging Sea* and *A Shared Haunting***

Contributor Bio

Taylor Grothe is a neurodivergent (ASD) NB horror writer with an MFA from Fairfield University. Their work has appeared in *Haven Speculative*, *Shortwave Magazine*, *Coffin Bell*, *Parents*, *Verywell Family*, *Brevity's* writing craft blog, and an anthology published by Bag of Bones Press. Taylor acted as a special editor for the *Brevity* special issue *Trans Experience* in 2022. They live in southwestern Connecticut with their spouse, two daughters, a Portuguese Water Dog, and two cats. *Hollow* is their debut novel.

Author Residence: Greenwich, CT

Author Hometown: Greenwich, CT



Barker's Doghouse 3: High Five!

Maria Bea Alfano, Laura Catalán

Summary

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

When Gio enters an agility competition with Gary the greyhound, he feels *sure* they will take first place—after all, Gio has a power that no other dog trainer has! But when he loses the ability to speak with Gary, Gio must find a new way forward... and a new understanding of what it really means to win.

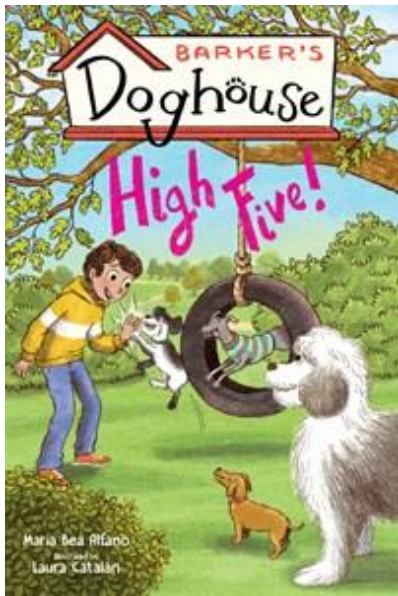
Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: New York, NY

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Hardcover

208 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Barker's Doghouse
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Barker's Doghouse 3: High Five!

Maria Bea Alfano, Laura Catalán

Summary

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

When Gio enters an agility competition with Gary the greyhound, he feels *sure* they will take first place—after all, Gio has a power that no other dog trainer has! But when he loses the ability to speak with Gary, Gio must find a new way forward... and a new understanding of what it really means to win.

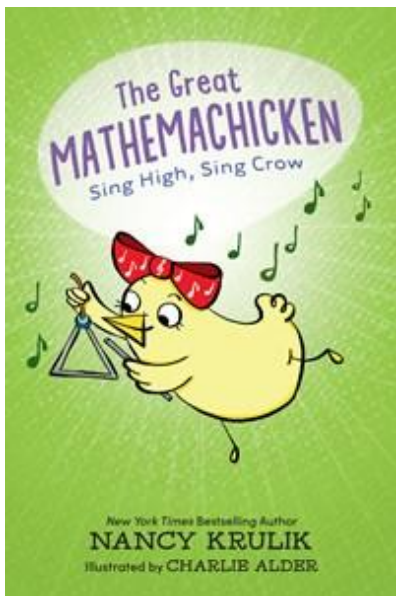
Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: New York, NY

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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

208 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Barker's Doghouse
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



The Great Mathemachicken 3: Sing High, Sing Crow

Nancy Krulik, Charlie Alder

Summary

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

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

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

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

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

Contributor Bio

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

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

Author Residence: New York, NY

Author Hometown: Cherry Hill, NJ

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

Visit her online at www.charliealder.com.

Illustrator Residence: Devon England

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Trade Paperback

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



Famous Anonymous

Morgan Baden

Summary

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

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

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

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

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Maplewood, NJ

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Trade Paperback

240 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Famous Anonymous
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Famous Anonymous 2: Undercover Summer

Morgan Baden

Summary

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

School's out, but summer break isn't much of a vacation for Sophie, Gus, Luke, and Harper. They're too busy making new videos for Cre8. They've got to get the clicks and keep their massive fan base!

But as they balance video production with the usual host of summer activities – and try to keep the neighborhood sleuth, Olivia, off their case -- a competing social media platform threatens to eclipse Cre8 and their entire following.

When another group of Valleyville kids becomes the newest online sensation, the crew must confront the differences between being anonymously famous versus famous-famous. They too could get everything they want -- starring roles, more friends, freedom to break out of certain roles they feel stuck in -- if they just unmasked themselves. But is that worth it?

This question, and more, will be answered in this fun and fast-paced sequel perfect for kids new to phones and social media, and anyone who's ever dreamed of becoming an influencer.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Maplewood, NJ

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Hardcover

208 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Famous Anonymous
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Gamers 1: Attempting Connection

E. C. Myers

Summary

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Poughkeepsie, NY

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Pub Date: 5/19/2026
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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

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

8.2 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.7 in T | 0.6
lb Wt



Gamers 2: Leveling Up

E. C. Myers

Summary

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

Bard is a great player, but he's painfully shy. So shy that it's taken him months to tell his teammates that he goes by his last name, not his first. He thought he'd finally found his people on this esports team! Now, though, the other founders are opening up the group to new competitors, and Bard's not sure he likes it.

He's about to return to gaming alone when an unexpected new friendship helps him adjust to his new teammates, manage a brewing problem at home, and bring his best for the team in its biggest competition yet.

Leveling Up features all-new games and an important subplot about mental health.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Poughkeepsie, NY

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\$18.99
Hardcover

240 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &
Recreation
Series: Gamers

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Tech Week

Lindsay Champion

Summary

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

In this sequel to *Setting the Stage*, there's one week left until opening night of *Curie: The Musical*, and nothing is going right backstage.

The set has collapsed, the crew's headsets don't work, and Ella, the stage manager, just quit in a fury. The cast and crew are playing pranks on each other, and Willow, the soundboard operator, is working on a scheme that will turn the feud into all-out war!

Levi, the tech lead, and Rosa, the star of the show, are caught in the middle. Can they unite the cast and crew in time to actually *rehearse*? Or will the chaos force them to take sides and destroy their showmance?

The teachers call it "tech week." The kids call it "hell week." Whatever you call it, this is the week that the *drama* of drama club gets real.

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: New York, NY

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\$18.99
Hardcover

208 Pages
Ages 10 to 14, Grades 5 to 9
Juvenile Fiction / Performing Arts
Series: Cast vs. Crew
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



National Archive Hunters 2: Eternal Flame

Matthew Landis

Summary

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

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

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

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

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

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Doylestown, Pennsylvania

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On Sale Date: 8/4/2026
\$10.99
Trade Paperback

304 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Thrillers &
Suspense
Series: National Archive Hunters
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Setting the Stage

Lindsay Champion

Summary

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

Every cast depends on its stage crew. But what happens when they hate each other? *SETTING THE STAGE* is the first act in a trilogy that tells the whole story!

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

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

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

Setting the Stage is a behind-the-scenes look at the *drama* of drama club from the crew's point of view.

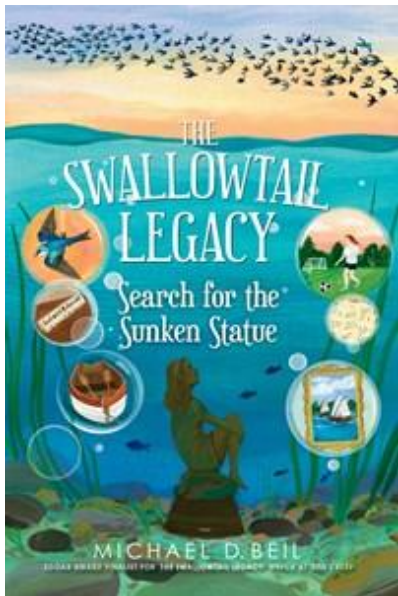
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

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

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Trade Paperback

208 Pages
Ages 10 to 14, Grades 5 to 9
Juvenile Fiction / Performing Arts
Series: Cast vs. Crew
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.4 lb Wt



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\$10.99
Trade Paperback

304 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &
Detective Stories
Series: The Swallowtail Legacy
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Swallowtail Legacy 3: Search for the Sunken Statue

Michael D. Beil

Summary

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

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

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

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

Contributor Bio

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

Author Residence: Portugal