FRANKFURT 2024



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS GUIDE

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LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

PICTURE BOOKS



THE WILD ROBOT ON THE ISLAND



PETER BROWN

Ages 4 – 7 48 Pages June 2025

Caldecott Honored Author

Full of Peter Brown's gorgeous illustrations, this picture book based on his #1 *New York Times* bestselling book is the perfect gift for fans of the series, the DreamWorks movie, and new readers.

Roz is not where she's supposed to be. You see, the robot wasn't designed to live in the wilderness. But when she washes up on an island, she must learn from the animal inhabitants and adapt to her new, natural surroundings, and before long, the island begins to feel like home.

Venture into Roz's wild world in this gorgeously illustrated picture book that brings to full color the adventures of *The Wild Robot*.

Peter Brown is the author and illustrator of many bestselling children's books, including The Wild Robot series, *Children Make Terrible Pets* and *The Curious Garden*. He is the recipient of a Caldecott Honor for *Creepy Carrots!*, a Horn Book Award, two E.B. White Read Aloud Awards, a *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children's Book award, and a Children's Choice Award for Illustrator of the Year.

Scan to visit Peter's website!



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Vietnamese (Tre)









Ed Emberley is the illustrator and author of over 80 books, including the bestselling *Go Away, Big Green Monster!* and his enormously popular Drawing Book series. He has received many awards and accolades, including a Caldecott Honor in 1967 and a Caldecott Medal in 1968. Ed lives in Ipswich, Massachusetts, with his family.

Scan to learn more about Ed!



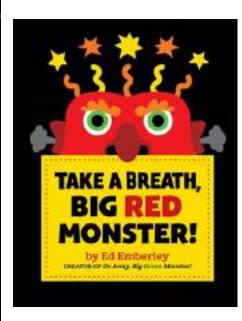
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Caldecott
Award
Winning
Author

TAKE A BREATH, BIG RED MONSTER



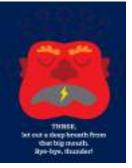
ED EMBERLY

Ages 4 – 8 32 Pages May 2025

This companion to the bestselling classic *Go Away, Big Green*Monster!, which sold over a million copies and is now celebrating over 30 years in print, boasts a similar, monsterously fun format and features die-cuts on every spread.

Big Red Monster is angry! Turning the pages reveals colorful illustrations of different parts of the cranky creature's face, from two mean green eyes to a big thundery loud mouth. We can help him calm down by taking deep breaths—in and out—until even his yellow-and-orange firecracker hair disappears.

This ingenious, interactive book about working through feelings of anger through play, imagination, and breathing deeply feels as fresh and innovative today as *Go Away*, *Big Green Monster!* did 30 years ago.









ROSEMARY LONG EARS

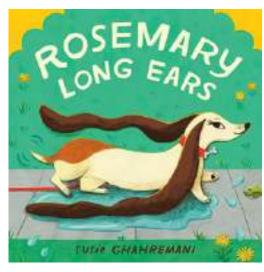
SUSIE GHAHREMANI

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages May 2025

A little mess turns out to be a lot of fun in this delightful adventure starring Rosemary, a fun-loving pup with very long ears—for fans of Harry the Dirty Dog and Pretzel.







Join Rosemary on a walk through her neighborhood with her best friend. There are puddles to splash through and leaves to play in—OH NO! Before too long, Rosemary is a mess. But she knows that if you never get dirty, you may miss out on all the fun!

This charming story from awardwinning creator Susie Ghahremani introduces a lovable, joyful pup and celebrates the thrill of letting loose.

Scan to visit
Susie's website!











PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD:

Arabic (Matar), Japanese (Suzuki), Korean (Wisdomhouse), Dutch (Uitgeverij Randazzo), Chinese-Simplified (Beijing Huaxia Winshare), Chinese-Complex (Global Kids), Hebrew (Matar), and Portuguese (PRH Grupo Editorial). Saturday sold in Korean (Prooni Books), Chinese-Simplified (Beijing Huaxia Winshare), Chinese-Complex (Global Kids), Spanish, Portuguese (PRH Grupo Editorial, Vergara & Riba)

Oge Mora is the creator of Thank You, Omu!, a Caldecott Honor, Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Award winner, and Ezra Jack Keats Book Award recipient. Her second book, Saturday, won the 2020 Boston Globe-Horn Book Picture Book Award. She has also illustrated several books for children including I'm From by Gary R. Gray Jr., Everybody in the Red Brick Building by Anne Wynter, and The Oldest Student by Rita Lorraine Hubbard. Oge resides in Providence, Rhode Island.



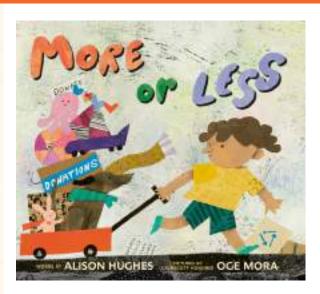




Alison Hughes has published more than 20 books for young people including What Matters and The Silence Slips In. She was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Awards, won the Writers' Union of Canada Writing for Children Award, and has been nominated 11 times for children's choice awards. When she's not writing, she works as a university writing advisor and editor. Alison lives in Alberta, Canada.



Scan to learn more about Alison!



MORE OR LESS

ALISON HUGHES, OGE MORA

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages June 2025

What if less could be more?

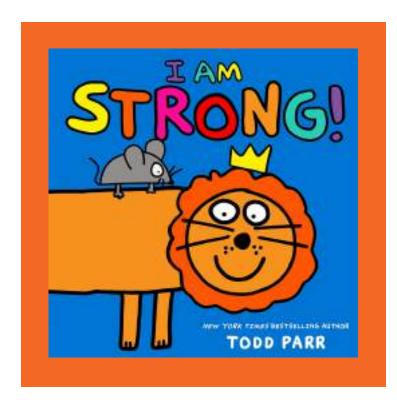
A child's bedroom, and the rest of his house, has become cluttered with stuff. But when one small act of giving something away sparks joy, he keeps going—and before you know it, his little sister, friends, and family get involved in donating items to people in need and bringing the whole community together for a swap party. Here is a heartening story that illustrates for the youngest readers how less can be MORE: more space for living, loving, and knowing that we already have PLENTY.

Brought to life in intricate collage by award-winning artist Oge Mora, More or Less extends the familiar mandate of "reduce, reuse, recycle" beyond the environment into community-building and the cultivation of kindness and meaning.

Caldecott Award Winning Illustrator







Todd Parr has inspired and empowered millions of children around the world with his bold images and positive messages. He is the bestselling author of more than sixty books, including *The Goodbye Book, The Family Book, The I Love You Book*, and *It's Okay to be Different*. He lives in California.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD:

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I AM STRONG!

TODD PARR

Ages 4 – 8 32 Pages August 2025

A humorous and heartfelt celebration of all the ways to be strong from *New York Times* bestselling author Todd Parr.

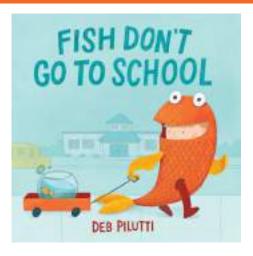
I am strong because...
I am gentle.
I ask for help.
I don't give up.

With his colorful illustrations, playful humor, and inclusive storytelling, beloved author Todd Parr has long been a favorite among young readers and caregivers. His books promote an essential message of love and acceptance that is inspiring, empowering, and accessible.









FISH DON'T GO TO SCHOOL



DEB PILUTTI

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages July 2025

Henry loves the way he feels in his sparkly fish costume. He wears it everywhere he goes: to the grocery store, at the dinner table, and even when taking his fish, Marigold, for a walk. On his first day of school, Henry is feeling anxious. He wishes he could take Marigold with him, but his mom says fish don't go to school. That's okay—Henry knows just what to wear to make himself feel brayer.

This heartwarming story follows Henry as he faces his fears and makes new friends, all while staying true to himself.

Deb Pilutti is the award-winning creator of many books for children, including Old Rock (is not boring), which was a Kirkus Reviews and Parents Magazine Best Book of the Year; Ten Steps for Flying Like a Superhero, which earned a starred review from School Library Journal; and Ten Rules for Being a Superhero.



Scan the QR code to visit Deb's website!



GOOD GOLDEN SUN

BRENDAN WENZEL

Ages 3 – 7 40 Pages February 2025







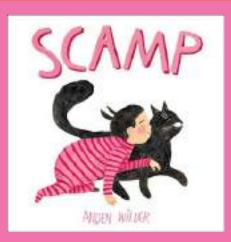
From sunbeam, to flower, to insect, to animal, to plant, to soil, and the earth itself...the sun transforms life all around us. Celebrate the mysteries of light from sunup to sundown as it weaves its way through creation inspiring change, hope, wonder, and curiosity. Using a bold, young collage-style art perfect for fans of Eric Carle, Brendan Wenzel's mastery of visual storytelling is on full display in this ebullient exploration of the life-giving power of our nearest star.



Scan to learn more about Brendan!



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SCAMP

ANDEN WILDER

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages February 2025

Truman meets Big Cat, Little Cat in this playful story about a girl and her best cat friend.

Scamp believes there are two cats in her house, until her growing body begins behaving in not-so-catlike ways. She suddenly finds herself standing on two feet...eating with a spoon...even enjoying the bath. What is happening to her? But when Hector needs help, Scamp must choose between acting like a cat and taking a big-girl stand to rescue her friend.

This sweet and poignant picture book, with inviting watercolor art, perfectly captures the moment when a little girl realizes she is becoming a big girl, and the universal bittersweet beauty of change.





Anden Wilder was raised with three cats and many, many books. Her work is inspired by her childhood and how the universality in our own stories can make us feel closer to one another. *Scamp* is her picture book debut. Anden lives and works in Denver, Colorado, with her husband, two children, one dog, four chickens, and two orange cats.

WHAT IF WE...

VIVIENNE CHANG, EUGENIA YOH

Ages 3 – 7 40 Pages June 2025



It's only the second day of summer, and Max is completely out of things to do. As he cycles through a series of fantastical ideas, Max can't stop thinking how much more summer fun he could have—if only he were somewhere else!

But by not being present, could Max be missing out on the most special adventure of all? And is he missing out on someone to share his adventures with?

This funny and imaginative story highlights sibling bonds and reminds readers of all ages that sometimes the best things can be found right where you are.





Eugenia Yoh and Vivienne Chang met as students at Washington University in St. Louis. Eugenia lives in Berkeley, California, and makes books for kids. Vivienne lives in New York City and makes digital products for grown-ups. They love telling stories that share universal ideas through humor.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD: Chinese-Complex (San Min Book Co)



GO, SLOTH, GO!

TONI YULY

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages June 2025

Take a trip to the rainforest with the creator of *The Pelican Can!* and cheer for a hungry sloth who takes her time—through thicket and vine.



Join the slowest mammal on Earth in her unhurried search for food. Developed in consultation with The Sloth Conservation Foundation in Costa Rica, Yuly's exploration of the sloth springs to life, rendered in rich, colorful layers of torn paper and ink. In a world where the pressure to speed ahead seems relentless, this celebration of going at your own pace will remind readers that sometimes slow is the best way to go.



Toni Yuly is the creator of many acclaimed picture books, including *The Pelican Can!* and *Thank You, Bees.* She studied painting at the University of Washington, where she worked with the great American painter Jacob Lawrence. For many years, she served as a librarian. She lives in Washington state.

Scan to see more of Toni's work!



BIG ENOUGH

REGINA LINKE

Ages 3 – 7 40 Pages April 2025



Big Enough is the origin story of the Oxherd Boy, about the day he is first sent to bring home the gigantic family ox on his own. Ah-Fu is worried that he isn't big enough to do the job. Can he become the oxherd boy his family expects, or will fear drive him home empty-handed?

After being cautioned about all the ways he should NOT try to handle the beast because of his small size, it turns out those are EXACTLY the things he must do to bring the Ox safely home in the dark. Using his wits and powers of persuasion, Ah-Fu discovers that he is, indeed, big enough.

With stunning illustrations, this empowering story inspired by traditional Chinese philosophy shows kids big *and* small how to trust themselves and embrace what they can be.

Regina Linke is a Taiwanese American artist specializing in contemporary Chinese gongbi painting. *Big Enough* is the origin story of the main character in her well-loved, inspirational book for adults, *The Oxherd Boy: Parables of Love, Compassion, and Community*. After living in Taipei, Taiwan, Regina moved to Rhode Island with her husband and young son, who inspires her every day as a real-life oxherd boy.

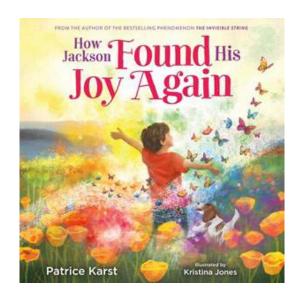
HOW JACKSON FOUND HIS JOY AGAIN

PATRICE KARST, KRISTINA JONES

Ages 4 – 8 48 Pages May 2025

Jackson has always been chockfull of joy and vibrant colors. But now his joy has dimmed and his colors are fading. It happens so slowly at first that Jackson barely seems to notice. But without all his colors, he feels gray and empty inside. Until one day when someone offers a few words of advice that changes everything: Each day, look for one color you see outside, and think about how it makes you feel.

Patrice Karst, author of the modern classic *The Invisible String*, shows readers how step by step, color by color, joy can return—and shine even more brightly than before—if we pay close attention to the world around us. Additional notes from Dr. Dana Wyss, PhD provide further guidance toward a path to recovery.



PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD:

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Patrice Karst is the author of the bestselling, contemporary classic *The Invisible String*, which has sold over 1.5 million copies and been translated into more than twenty languages. Patrice has also written The Invisible String Family Celebration: A Reimagining of The Invisible String, The Invisible String Backpack, The Invisible Leash: An Invisible String Story Celebrating Love After the Loss of a Pet, The Invisible Web: An Invisible String Story Celebrating Love and Our Universal Connection, You Are Never Alone: An Invisible String Lullaby, and The InvisibleString Workbook: Creative Activities to Comfort, Calm and Connect, a therapeutic activity book co-written with Dana Wyss, Ph.D. Patrice has also written Ruby and Lonely, The Smile That Went Around the World, and God Made Easy, a universal spiritual guide to God for adults. Born in London, England, she now lives in California.

Scan to visit Patrice's website!



Kristina Jones is an illustrator who has worked as a creative arts educator in both Ukraine and Eswatini. Her first book, *The Amazing African Animal Alphabet*, was nominated for an IBBY South Africa Picture Book Illustrator Award. She lives in British Columbia with her husband, daughter, giant dog, and three rescue cats.

BLUE

SUZANNE KAUFMAN

Ages 3 – 7 48 Pages June 2025

One summer morning, Boy wakes up to discover Blue. Curious, he follows this mysterious bird on a day's worth of adventure, play, and exploring the nooks and crannies of their coastal home. And at night, they soar, with hands and wings reaching for the stars. But as the sunrise peeks out, Boy is forced to say goodbye to Blue. For now.

In this gentle and touching story, *New York Times* bestselling illustrator Suzanne Kaufman proves that love can transcend all boundaries.

Suzanne Kaufman is the New York Times bestselling illustrator of the All Are Welcome series, Take Your Pet to School Day, 100 Bugs!, and Samanthasaurus Rex, and is the author of A Friend for Ghost and Confiscated! She is the recipient of the Ezra Jack Keats/Kerlan Memorial Fellowship, a Washington State Book Award, Notable Books for a Global Society honors, and more. When she's not working, you can find her adventuring in search of her own Blue.

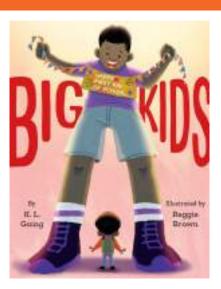












BIG KIDS

K. L. GOING, REGGIE BROWN

Ages 3 – 7 40 Pages July 2025

With insightful text and energetic art, this perfect back-to-school read shines humor and empathy on the intimidating feeling every kid feels at a new school!

It's the first day and school and everywhere our small hero looks there are big kids! Big kids are shouting, playing, and high-fiving each other. Big kids are crowding the halls and hanging out on the playground. It all feels a bit overwhelming. And since it's Buddy Day, the big kids are pairing off with little kids. But maybe having a big buddy won't be so bad-- he shows him where to find his classroom and where to hang his coat. He even uses his big kid arms to reach the chocolate pudding! Maybe big kids aren't so scary after all?



Scan to visit K. L.'s website!

K.L. Going is the author of many critically acclaimed novels, including *The Liberation of Gabriel King* and the Printz Honor—winning *Fat Kid Rules the World*, as well as the picture books *Bumpety, Dunkety, Thumpety-Thump!* and *This Is the Planet Where I Live*. She lives with her family in New York.

Reggie Brown is a bestselling and award-winning illustrator of many children's books, including the New York Times best-selling Who Are Your People? by Bakari Sellers, Santa in the City by Tiffany D. Jackson, Tacko Fall: To New Heights by Tacko Fall and Justin Haynes, and the Magnificent Makers series by Theanne Griffith. Reggie lives with his wife in California.

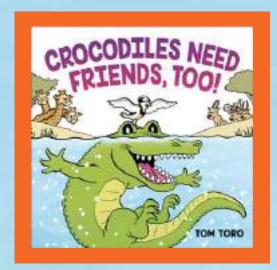
Scan to see more of Reggie's work!



CROCODILES NEED FRIENDS, TOO!

TOM TORO

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages November 2024



Inspired by one of Tom Toro's most popular *New Yorker* cartoons, this action-packed story full of humor and heart follows a lonely predator on the hunt...for pals.

Croc isn't like other crocodiles. She is a reptilian ballerina! An aquatic architect! A croc 'n' roll STAR! She is creative, cool, and fun. But the other animals only notice her sharp teeth and scary eyes. It's lonely when nobody sees who you are deep down. When disaster strikes, Croc has a chance to prove what a great friend she can be—and show the savanna that you can discover something new about someone by simply looking under the surface.

Perfect for fans of *Grumpy Monkey* and *Chez Bob,* this story shares the importance of self-expression and friendship.

Tom Toro is an award-winning picture book illustrator and New Yorker cartoonist. His books include How to Potty Train Your Porcupine as well as I'm Terrified of Bath Time and Back to School, Backpack!, both written by Simon Rich. His weekly comic strip Home Free appears on GoComics. Tom lives in Portland, Oregon.

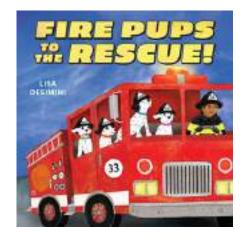


FIRE PUPS TO THE RESCUE



LISA DESIMINI

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages May 2025



When the fire alarm rings, everyone at the firehouse gets ready to save the day—including the Fire Pups. With their keen sense of smell and sharp eyesight, these adorable Dalmatian heroes are prepared to protect a family at all costs.

Introducing concepts related to firefighting and fire safety, and with back matter detailing the history of the fire dog, this engaging picture book follows four adventurous pups in an action packed day at the firehouse. It's the perfect readaloud for preschoolers.





Lisa Desimini is the award-winning author and illustrator of more than thirty-five books for children, including My House, a New York Times Best Illustrated Book of the Year, and the bestseller Dot the Fire Dog. Lisa loves all animals—wild and domesticated. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and two kitties.

Scan to visit Lisa's website!

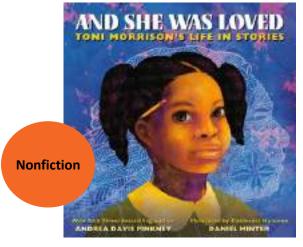


AND SHE WAS LOVED: TONI MORRISON'S

LIFE IN STORIES

ANDREA PINKNEY, **DANIEL MINTER**

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages January 2025



From imaginative child to visionary storyteller, Toni Morrison was a fiercely inspiring writer that helped change the world. This poetic picture book is part love letter and part biography, praising the power of this Nobel Prize winner. With its tender refrain, readers will know how much Morrison's stories--and their own--mean to the world. She was loved-and so are thev!

Andrea Davis Pinkney is the New York Times bestselling and award-winning author of nearly 50 books for children and young adults, including The Red Pencil and Bird in a Box. She has also produced several collaborations with her husband two-time Caldecott Honor-winning artist Brian Pinkney, including Sit -In, Martin & Mahalia, and Hand in Hand, winner of the Coretta Scott King Author Award. Ms. Pinkney has been recognized by Children's Health magazine as one of the "25 Most Influential People in our Children's Lives," and has been inducted into the New York State Writers Hall of Fame. She lives in Brooklyn, NY.

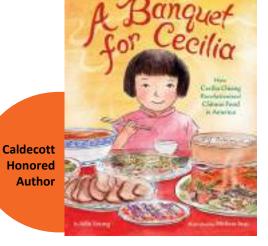
Daniel Minter has illustrated over a dozen children's books, including Going Down Home with Daddy which won a 2020 Caldecott Honor and Ellen's Broom which won a Coretta Scott King Illustration Honor. He is known for his work in the mediums of painting and assemblage. He lives in Portland, Maine.

Caldecott Honor & **Coretta Scott King Award** Winning Creators

A BANQUET FOR **CECILIA**

JULIE LEUNG, MELISSA IWAI

Ages 3 – 7 40 Pages **April 2025**



From an early age, Cecilia Chiang could be found delighting in the sounds and smells from her favorite place—the kitchen. Little did Cecilia know that she would one day have to escape war and travel to a faraway country, destined to change Chinese cuisine in the United States forever.

Relish in the savory, tangy, and sometimes spicy dishes that Cecilia Chiang experienced throughout her life as the seventh daughter in a large family to the owner of the famous Mandarin restaurant in San Francisco.

website!

Julie Leung is the author of many children's books, including the Caldecott honoree The Truth About Dragons; APALA award-winning Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist, illustrated by Chris Sasaki; and The Fearless Flights of Hazel Ying Lee.

Melissa Iwai is the creator of over thirty picture books, including Soup Day, Pizza Day, and Dumplings for Lili, and Gigi and Ojiji, a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor-winning series. She lives with her husband, author Denis Markell, in Brooklyn. She invites to you visit her on Instagram @melissaiwai1 and on X @meliwai



Scan to see Melissa's work!



THE MARVELOUS NOW

ANGELA DITERLIZZI, LORENA ALVAREZ GOMEZ

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages May 2025



NOT FINAL

This calming companion to the bestselling *The Magical Yet* and *The Curious Why* is a *marvelous* introduction for young readers to mindfulness and keeping your cool!

When you're feeling big feelings or having a bad day, it can be hard to calm your racing mind and stay present. *The Marvelous Now* gives kids the tools to do just that, through accessible, rhythmic verse by Angela DiTerlizzi and colorful, joyful illustrations by Lorena Alvarez Gómez. Missed the bus? Flubbed a test? Got overwhelmed in a crowd? The Now can help young readers learn to regulate their emotions, reset, and reach their happy place. The Marvelous Now will help you to see that *this* is the moment where you need to be!



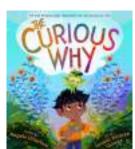
Angela DiTerlizzi is the author of award-winning picture books *The Magical Yet, The Curious Why, A Very Cranky Book, Some Bugs, Just Add Glitter,* and many others. She and her husband, author-illustrator Tony DiTerlizzi, live with their daughter and two dogs in Massachusetts.



Scan to learn more about Angela!

Lorena Alvarez Gómez is the illustrator of bestselling The Magical Yet and The Curious Why by Angela DiTerlizzi, The City Tree by Shira Boss, The Noon Balloon by Margaret Wise Brown, Marsha Is Magnetic by Beth Ferry, and the Carmen books by Anika Denise, among others. She lives in Bogotá, Colombia.





PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD: Ukrainian (Ranok), and French (Scholastic Canada)

IF YOU LIKE BUTTERFLIES



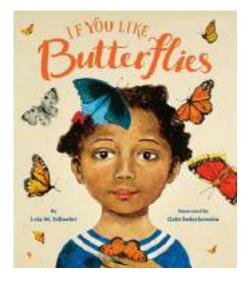
LOLA M. SCHAEFER, **GABI SWIATKOWSKA**

Ages 3 – 7 40 Pages May 2025

The butterfly rises and glides, traveling from flower to flower as it sips nectar and spreads pollen. But before its adult life can begin, each butterfly

must complete a magnificent journey. Starting as a tiny egg beneath a leaf, the butterfly's life is marked by change. The tender caterpillar hatches, grows, and molts. The chrysalis protects and transforms. Finally, the butterfly emerges, flapping its wings dry before lifting into the air for its first flight.

Lyrical and informative and with beautiful artwork, this stunning picture book highlights the wonder in each stage of a butterfly's amazing life cycle, and includes informative bonus material about creating your own butterfly garden.



Lola M. Schaefer is the author of many award-winning books for children, including An Island Grows; What's Up, What's Down?; and Pick, Pull, Snap! Where Once a Flower Bloomed, an NCTE Notable Children's Book in the Language Arts; and What's Up, What's Down?



Scan to visit Lola's website!

Gabi Swiatkowska is the illustrator of many acclaimed books for children, including Mary Cassatt: Extraordinary Impressionist Painter, which was named a CBC-NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book, as well as My Name Is Yoon, an ALA Notable Book for which she received the Ezra Jack Keats Award.









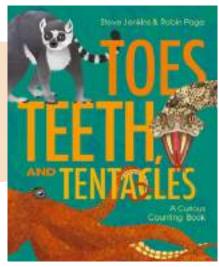
TOES, TEETH, AND TENTACLES

STEVE JENKINS, ROBIN PAGE

Ages 4 – 8 40 Pages July 2025 Caldecott Honored Author

Did you know...
a praying mantis only has **one** ear?
a squid has **three** hearts?
a giant African land snail can have up to **eighteen thousand** teeth?

Toes, Teeth, and Tentacles celebrates and highlights the numerous unusual and strangely fascinating features and appendages of all kinds of animals, from horns to toes and stomachs to hearts. From the two-tongued loris to a scallop's 200 eyes, readers will find joy in numbers with this latest book by these two masters of nonfiction. While not a counting book in the traditional sense, readers will enjoy learning all kinds of fun facts from the animal world as they look for fingers and fins!







Steve Jenkins wrote and illustrated many nonfiction picture books for young readers, including the Caldecott Honored *What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?* His books have been called stunning, eye-popping, inventive, gorgeous, masterful, extraordinary, playful, irresistible, compelling, engaging, accessible, glorious, and informative.

Robin Page has written and illustrated many picture books celebrating the natural world, including many she created with her husband Steve Jenkins, as well as her own *A Chicken Followed Me Home!*, Seeds Move!, and Shall We Dance? Robin lives in Colorado.

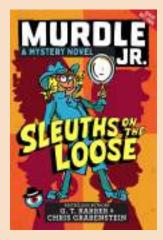
Nonfiction

MIDDLE GRADE



MURDLE JR. MYSTERIES

Inspired by the global phenomenon of the Murdle puzzle books comes the first novel in a new thrilling mystery series, for fans of *Mr. Lemoncello's Library* and *The Swifts*.



MURDLE JR.: SLEUTHS ON THE LOOSE

Ages 10 & up 224 Pages May 2025

For a junior detective like Jake, standing up to bad guys is easy. After all, she's the only detective at Sacred Kidney Elementary with a hard-earned badge to her name. But just as Jake and her sidekick Sterling prepare to face off against the biggest bully in school, there's a scream from inside the library. When the kids arrive at the scene of the crime, the library is how it's always been: filled with books, but Miss Saffron, the librarian, is gone! None of the adults are talking, but Jake, Sterling, and Brick the bully are determined to find out what happened. This unlikely trio promises to solve the crime at Sacred Kidney!

G. T. Karber grew up in a small tow

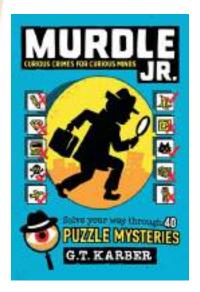
G. T. Karber grew up in a small town in Arkansas, the son of a judge and a civil rights attorney. As a lifelong mystery fan, he has organized more than forty immersive mysteries in Los Angeles.

RIGHTS SOLD: UK & Commonwealth (Profile Books), Spanish (PRH Grupo Editorial), French (Editions Nathan), North American French (Les Editions de L'Homme), German (Fischer Sauerländer), Portuguese (Presença, Editora Intrinseca), Dutch (Standaard Uitgeverij), Danish (Alpha Forlag), Norwegian (Vigmostad & Bjorke), Finnish (Werner Söderström), Greek (Psichogios), Turkish (Olimpos), Hungarian (Maxim), Polish (Wydawnictwo)

MURDLE JR. PUZZLES

Jump on the Murdle craze with hours of immersive puzzleand-mystery-solving fun for kids, teens, and families!





PUZZLE BOOK 1: MURDLE JR.: CURIOUS CRIMES FOR CURIOUS MINDS

G. T. KARBER

Ages 10 & up 240 Pages November 2024

Stop what you're doing right now: There are mysteries to solve! Grab a pencil (and your wits) and step inside the puzzle-solving craze that's become an international sensation. From the ingenious mind of G.T. Karber comes a series of forty mini mysteries led by four junior detectives: tough-as-nails Jake, computer-whiz Olivia, quick-thinking Julius, and the un-furgettable Buster McPaws.

It's up to YOU to crack each whodunit, find the culprits, and lead this ragtag team to their grandest case of all! Clues, codes, and a helpful mystery-solving grid provide hours of immersive fun. Do you have what it takes to become a Murdle Jr. detective?



PUZZLE BOOK 2: MURDLE JR.: READY, SET, SOLVE!

Ages 10 & up 208 Pages May 2025

The first Murdle Jr. novelization Sleuths on the Loose is a companion for this puzzle book, with some Easter eggs puzzles to solve between the pairing of books, for readers with the keenest of eyes!

ROSWELL JOHNSON SAVES THE GALAXY

CHRIS COLFER

Ages 8 - 12 496 Pages June 2025



Guardians of the Galaxy meets The Land of Stories in this sequel to Roswell Johnson Saves the World! Packed with humor, heart, and action, the second book this adventure series will take middle grade readers on another epic journey, this time, to save the galaxy!

Something very strange is happening in our galaxy. People, spaceships, and whole stars are disappearing without a trace. The Milky Way



Galactic Alliance can't explain the bizarre phenomena, prompting Roswell and his alien friends to solve the mystery themselves. Along the way, Roswell discovers new technology that puts our entire solar system in grave danger, and he learns he's closer to the problem than he ever thought possible.





LEAD

Chris Colfer is a #1 New York Times bestselling author and Golden Globe winning actor. He was honored as a member of the TIME 100, Time magazine's annual list of the one hundred most influential people in the world, and his books include Struck By Lightning: The Carson Phillips Journal, Stranger Than Fanfiction, and the books in The Land of Stories series: The Wishing Spell, The Enchantress Returns, A Grimm Warning, Beyond the Kingdoms, An Author's Odyssey, and Worlds Collide, and the companion books A Treasury of Classic Fairy Tales, The Mother Goose Diaries, Queen Red Riding Hood's Guide to Royalty, The Curvy Tree, Trollbella Throws a Party, the graphic novel Goldilocks: Wanted Dead or Alive. He is also the author of A Tale of Magic..., A Tale of Witchcraft..., and A Tale of Sorcery.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD:

UK English (Hachette Childrens Group), German (Fischer), French (Michele Lafon), Italian (Rizzoli), Polish (Wydawnictwo Papierowy Ksiezyc), Slovak (Vydavatel'stvo Fragment), Vietnamese (Tre), Bulgarian (RIVA), Ukrainian (Ranok), Romanian (Nemira), Japanese (Heibonsha), Korean (Ggumgyeol), Turkish (Bilgi Yayinevi), Russian (AST), Chinese-Simplified (Beijing Fonghong Media), Chinese-Complex (Tony Culture), Albanian (Argeta), Estonian (Varrak), Czech (Albatros), Thai (Nokhook), Spanish (PRH Grupo Editorial), Hungarian (Konyvmolykepzo Kiado), Dutch (Fontaine Uitgevers), Portuguese (Saraiva), Greek (Metaixmio), Hebrew (Arieh Nir), and more!

THE WEIRDIES

MICHAEL BUCKLEY, FORREST BURDETT

Ages 8 - 12 288 Pages June 2025

Ten-year-old triplets Barnacle, Melancholy, and Garlic Weirdie grew up in a town plagued by relentless meteor showers. Their home,

Deadeye Manor, is a bleak mansion filled with hundreds of eccentric houseguests and one set of emotionally distant (some would say sociopathic) parents. When the entire group of grown-ups goes on vacation, forgetting to bring the children, the three siblings are sent to Our Lady of the Perpetual Side-Eye Orphanage, where they meet Miss Emily, a sweet and loving caseworker who attempts to smooth their rough edges. The triplets, however, are truly weird — causing chaos and mayhem in their adoptive home on picture-perfect Sunshine Circle.

Will the Weirdies and Miss Emily manage to become the family they all desperately need, or will it end in disaster for all of them?

Michael Buckley is *The New York Times* bestselling author of The Sisters Grimm series and NERDS. His other works are the YA trilogy Undertow, the sci-fi middle grade trilogy Finn and the Intergalactic Lunchbox, *Kel Gilligan's Daredevil Stuntshow, Lenny the Lobster Can't Stay for Dinner,* cowritten by his son, Finn Buckley, and the Audible Original series The Weirdies, narrated by Kate Winslet.

Forrest Burdett is an illustrator, writer, and amateur cryptozoologist based in Portland, Oregon. When he is not out hiking trails (on the hunt for bigfoot, of course), he is busy painting and imagining faraway worlds.

Scan to learn more about Forrest!









MELISSA DASSORI

Ages 8 - 12 288 Pages August 2025

Greta Starr has one dream: to be a famous reporter. Unfortunately she's been assigned to write for the paper's most boring beat, and she's stuck. Then, on Greta's twelfth birthday, she receives a mysterious cuckoo clock with a wooden dancer at its center. Every hour, the doll twirls in time with the music, until one night she comes to life. Lulu is infused with magic and mischief. With Lulu's sly encouragement, Greta engineers a feel-good story to report on, setting in motion a series of remarkable—if deceitful—happy endings at school that help Greta gain popularity. But when the truth threatens Greta's friendships, she is confronted with very real consequences that Lulu's magic can't fix.

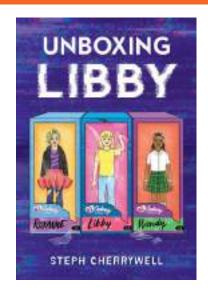
This coming-of-age story explores the blurred line between fact and fiction as Greta realizes the key to being a great reporter—and a great friend—is striving for truth, not perfection.

Melissa Dassori is the author of J.R. Silver Writes Her World, which was an Owlcrate Jr. Book Club Selection, a Bank Street Best Book of the Year, and a Washington Post Kids Summer Book Club recommendation. Melissa lives in New York City with her husband and three daughters.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD:
Korean (Gaeamnamu), Chinese-Simplified
(New Buds Publishing House)

Scan to visit Melissa online!





UNBOXING LIBBY

STEPH CHERRYWELL

Ages 8 - 12 320 Pages April 2025

Max isn't always sweet and bubbly. That wouldn't be an issue except for the fact that she's programmed to be. "Max" isn't even her real name. She's a Libby— one of the most popular A.I.Cademy Girl social robots, which top the sales charts for girls ages eight to twelve. They look almost human and there's a companion to fit every personality. Wendys are smart. Robins are sporty. Noras are artistic. And Libbys? As the box they come in says: Always chipper, cheerful, and sweet, Libby(TM) makes the perfect friend.

But despite her packaging and her programmed memories, Max is feeling the opposite of perfect. The only thing she wants to know is *why*. But this question uncovers bigger answers than she bargained for—like the shocking fate of the other A.I.Cademy Girls, and what the founders of their idyllic community are really hiding. Max may not be the perfect Libby, but she'll have to embrace what makes her uniquely *Max* to save herself and her friends before they're all sent to the junkyard.

Steph Cherrywell is a nonbinary librarian, author, illustrator, and game creator in the Milwaukee area. They have previously written and illustrated the YA-and-older graphic novels *Widgey Q. Butterfluff* and *Pepper Penwell and the Land Creature of Monster Lake*, and written and programmed the award-winning text adventures *Brain Guzzlers from Beyond!* and *Zozzled*. They love comics, science fiction, roleplaying games, and exploring the city by bicycle.

WILL'S RACE FOR HOME

JEWELL P. RHODES

Ages 8 - 12 256 Pages January 2025 Coretta Scott King Honored Author

It's 1886, just 20 years after the Emancipation Proclamation, and a young Black family is tired of working on land they don't own. So when



Will and his father hear about an upcoming land rush, they set out on a journey from Texas to Oklahoma, racing hundreds of others to a place where land is free—if they can get to it first. But the journey isn't easy—the terrain is rough, bandits are brutal, and danger lies everywhere. And then, there's the stranger they encounter and befriend: a mysterious Union soldier who brings more attention—and trouble—than any of them need.

All three are propelled by the promise of something long denied to them: freedom, ownership, and a place to call home—but is a strong will enough to get them there?

Dr. Jewell Parker Rhodes is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Ghost Boys*; *Black Brother, Black Brother; Paradise on Fire*; and more. She is the recipient of many awards and honors, including the Coretta Scott King Author Honor, the Green Earth Book Award, an NAACP Image Award nomination, the Jane Addams Children's Book Award, and the Octavia E. Butler Award. Rhodes is the Founding Artistic Director of the Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing and Virginia G. Piper Endowed Chair at Arizona State University.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD:

UK English (Hachette Children's Group), Italian (Editrice II Castoro), French (Hachette Jeunesse), Japanese (Hyoron-Sha), Chinese-Complex (Youth Cultural Enterprise Co.), Chinese-Simplified (Aurora), Korean (Darim), Romanian (SC Booklet), and more!

Scan to learn more!



THRASH FORCE

RAJ SIDHU

Ages 8 - 12 192 Pages July 2025



Seventh grader Riley Singh is a smart kid—smart enough to know that he could be an exceptional student in school...if he wasn't always playing Dungeon Brawl: a role-playing game where he and his friends embark on adventures to slay demon lords and rescue villages. The only problem is that Doomface, the villain of their newest adventure, is listening in on their game and may just be maniacal enough to pull four middle schoolers through the folds of reality to satisfy his ego.

Stranded in a strange world with magical powers and alterego bodies, Riley and his friends will have to find a way to defeat Doomface. And Riley will do whatever it takes to get home before his parents realize he's missing—even if that means dooming his friends along the way.

Raj Sidhu grew up as an Indian-American kid who dreamed of magic powers and vanquishing evil. As an adult, he is a proud fantasy nerd and a successful education entrepreneur. He has extensive experience marketing to parents and schools, and entertaining kids at assemblies. With these powers combined, he hopes to tell tales that kids will love for years to come.

BULLDOZER AND FRIENDS

The beloved team of Elise Broach and Kelly Murphy are back with a new series about an endearing bulldozer living in a human world.

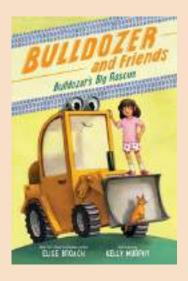


BOOK 1: BULLDOZER'S BIG RESCUE

ELISE BROACH, KELLY MURPHY

Ages 6 - 9 128 Pages January 2025

Bulldozer is shy and nervous about starting school. But when he meets his new neighbor Millie and her little brother Jay, Bulldozer embarks on a daring adventure to rescue a stranded cat. With the help of his own machinery—and a plate of freshly baked cookies—Bulldozer overcomes his fears just by being himself.



BOOK 2: BULLDOZER GOES TO SCHOOL

Ages 6 - 9 128 Pages July 2025

Bulldozer overcomes his anxieties before the first day of school in the second installment of the Bulldozer and Friends series.

Bulldozer is nervous about his new school year and worried he won't fit in. Millie tries to reassure him, but Bulldozer isn't convinced, especially when things start going wrong. But just when he's sure his day couldn't get worse, something amazing happens. The first day of school proves to be special for everyone, all because of Bulldozer.

Elise Broach is the bestselling author of numerous books for children, including the Masterpiece Adventures chapter book series, picture books such as *Bedtime for Little Bulldozer*, and *Duet, Masterpiece, Shakespeare's Secret, The Wolf Keepers*, and the Superstition Mountain trilogy. She lives in Connecticut.



Scan to visit Elise online!

Scan to learn more about Kelly!



Kelly Murphy has illustrated many popular books for children including *Masterpiece*, and the Masterpiece Adventures series, as well as *Faraway Things* by Dave Eggers. She lives in Providence, Rhode Island.

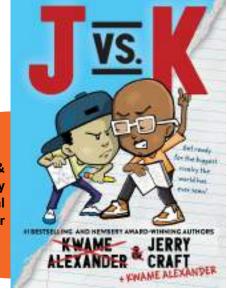


J VS. K

KWAME ALEXANDER, JERRY CRAFT

Ages 8 - 12 240 Pages May 2025





Created by real-life rivals and #1 New York Times bestselling authors Kwame Alexander and Jerry Craft this hilarious illustrated story features two talented fifth graders going head-to-head in a competition for the ages.

J and K are the most talented fifth graders at Dean Ashley Public School (DAPS). J loves to draw and his wordless stories are J-ENIUS! K loves to write and his stories are K-LASSIC!! Both J and K are determined to win the DAPS annual creative storytelling contest or at least get in the top five. And when they find out that they are both entering The Contest, it's the beginning of one of the most intense rivalries the world has ever seen.

Jerry Craft is the bestselling creator of the graphic novels New Kid (the only novel to ever win the John Newbery Medal, the Kirkus Prize, and the Coretta Scott King Award), Class Act and School Trip. Jerry is also a co-founder of the Schomburg's Annual Black Comic Book Festival. He grew up in New York City and now lives in Connecticut.



Scan to visit Jerry's website!

Scan to learn more about Kwame!



Kwame Alexander is the bestselling author of more than 35 books, including the Caldecott and Newbery Honor-winning picture book *The Undefeated*, the Newbery medal-winning novel, *The Crossover, Becoming Muhammad Ali, Booked*, which was longlisted for the National Book Award, *Rebound, Solo* and *Swing*. A regular contributor to NPR's *Morning Edition*, Kwame is also the recipient of many other awards, including the Coretta Scott King Author Honor.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD:
UK English (Andersen Press) and Korean (Prooni Books), and French (Editions Albin Michel)



AN IMPRINT OF LITTLE, BROWN BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

LEAD

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD: Italian (Edizione Tunue), Spanish (VR Editoras), Portuguese (VR Editora, Zero a Oito), French (Hachette Livre)



Emily Erdos was born and raised in the Midwest. After attending the Massachusetts College of Art and Design and Savannah College of Art and Design, she graduated with an MFA and married her comic partner-in-crime, Deya Muniz. They now live and create sweet and silly stories together with their dog children, Ellie and Pumpkin, by their sides!

Deya Muniz was born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where they grew up watching Pride and Prejudice and reading copious amounts of shojo manga. In 2017, they moved to the United States to pursue a master's degree in sequential art, where they met and fell in love with a wonderful girl who makes delicious grilled cheese sandwiches.

Click here to check out the webtoon comic











BLADES OF FURRY

DEYA MUNIZ, EMILY ERDOS

Ages 14 & up 512 Pages May 2025

Enter the high stakes world of battle skating in this rivals-to-lovers romance—based on the spectacularly popular webcomic.

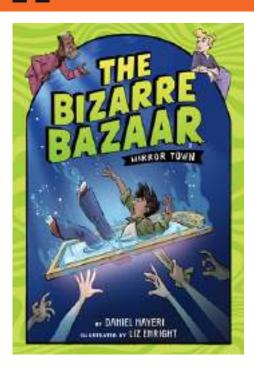
Emile is an up-and-coming rookie in battle skating, a sport that combines the graceful figure skating with brutal martial arts. Just as he is gearing up for his next duel at the championships, there's a change in the lineup! To his horror, he'll have to face off against reigning champion Radu, the best battle skater in the world (and Emile's idol). There's no way he can win!

During a pivotal moment in their match, however, Emile discovers Radu's most closely guarded secret...and it's a bloody one. This could destroy

Radu's career for good, but when feelings start to develop between them both on and off the rink, will this rivalry turn into something more...?

Based on the WEBTOON hit comic with over forty million views and half a million subscribers, this irresistible story full of heart-pounding romance, breathtaking skate battles, and secrets both good and bad is now available in a gorgeous print edition that includes neverbefore-seen content!





THE BIZARRE BAZAAR: MIRROR TOWN

DANIEL NAYERI, LIZ ENRIGHT

Ages 8 - 12 144 Pages July 2025

Daniel Nayeri was born in Iran and spent several years as a refugee before immigrating to Oklahoma at age eight with his family. He is the author of several books for young readers, including *Everything Sad Is Untrue (A True Story)*, winner of the Michael L. Printz Award, and *The Many Assassinations of Samir, The Seller of Dreams*, winner of the Newbery Honor. He lives in the United States with his wife and son.

Liz Enright is a cartoonist and educator based in upstate New York. Her work is inspired by history, folklore, and all things spooky. When she isn't drawing, you'll find her wandering the nearest forest or antique shop.



Scan to visit Liz online!



Enter the Bizarre Bazaar, a new graphic novel series sure to enchant or entrap its curious customers! In this first twisted tale, a boy stumbles—literally—into Mirror Town, a world where he gets everything he's ever wanted...or so he thinks.

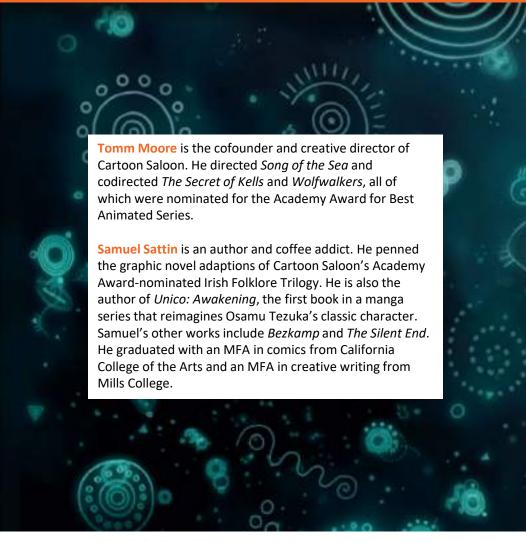
No one ever pays attention to twelve-year-old Abel Azari: not his parents, not the cool kids at school, and certainly not his crush, Ginny Mendoza. To them, he's always been practically invisible.

That all changes the day he discovers a peculiar mirror in his neighbor's garage. But this isn't any old mirror, as Abel finds out soon enough when he accidentally *falls* through it.

What waits for him on the other side is a world just like his, except something is...off. Suddenly, his busy parents are spending every minute with him, his classmates treat him like a king, and now the girl he's been crushing on wants to hang out? It's the life Abel's always dreamed of; how could he possibly go back to the way things were before?

But not everything—or everyone—is as it seems. Mirror Town hides evil secrets, and Abel will have to unravel them fast before he ends up trapped there forever.









THE SECRET OF KELLS

TOMM MOORE, SAMUEL SATTIN

Ages 8 & up 272 Pages February 2025

Inspired by Celtic folklore and based on the award-winning film *The Secret* of *Kells*, this stunning conclusion to the

Irish Folklore Trilogy is about a brave boy, his mystical new friend, and the power of imagination against even the darkest of forces.

In the remote Abbey of Kells lives a young monk named Brendan, who spends his days isolated from the world, toiling away under the strict control of his uncle to build walls that fend off the Vikings. Everything changes when a master illuminator arrives with an extraordinary book containing secret powers. But the book is unfinished, and Brendan's help is needed. As he sets off on a thrilling adventure through the enchanted woods, he encounters wicked creatures lurking in the shadows—but also new friends. With the help of the bold fairy Aisling, can he finish the ancient book and cast light over Kells?

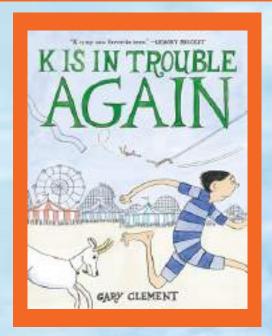
This bewitching story features two additional stories written and illustrated by Tomm Moore.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD: Italian (ReNoir), French (Pika), Spanish (Catalogo del Comic), German (Cross Cult), Czech (Grada), and Russian (Ivanov & Ferber)









K IS IN TROUBLE AGAIN

GARY CLEMENT

Ages 7 & up 216 Pages April 2025

Misfortune hilariously abounds in this graphic novel about the persistently unlucky K—who is, once again, *very* much in trouble!

Trouble finds him when a goat eats his train ticket home. Trouble finds him when he's stowed away in a barrel of apples, hiding from angry farmers. Trouble finds him as he dangles from a ridiculously high diving board in front of the entire town. Trouble even finds him through a very talkative snowman, whose chatter gets K into even *more* trouble.

But it's not all bad news for K! Join K as he tries (and fails) to stay out of trouble in this new set of adventures from Gary Clement.

Gary Clement is a Canadian artist, cartoonist, illustrator, and writer. He's the author and illustrator of several children's books, including *The Great Poochini*, and most recently illustrated *My Winter City*, written by James Gladstone. His work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, and other publications across North America.



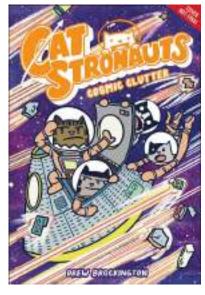




CATSTRONAUTS: COSMIC CLUTTER

DREW BROCKINGTON

Ages 6 - 9 176 Pages August 2025



It's family day down in CATSUP, and Major Meowser is grumpily waiting for his dad-cat to make a big entrance. Anycat who's anycat knows who Buck Meowser is—he's the first cat to ever orbit space! But Major's in for quite the shock when CATSUP announces Buck is making his grand return, this time joining the CatStronauts on their mission to clean space junk from the Earth's orbit. Perfect time for father-son bonding, right? Well....Major and Buck can't stop ruffling each other's fur! But when the safety of their spacecraft is threatened, can these two put their paws together to make this mission a success?

In this full-color graphic novel, author-illustrator Drew Brockington tests the CatStronauts with everything he's got—space litter, environmental peril, and of course, many pawesome puns!

Drew Brockington has flown a Space Shuttle, repaired the International Space Station, and served in Mission Control; all during a week at Space Camp. CatStronauts is his first series. He lives with his family in Minneapolis.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD: Italian (II Castoro), Korean (Woongjin Think Big), Chinese-Simplified (CITIC), Russian (AST)







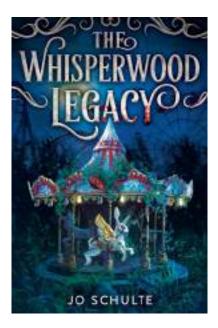


YOUNG ADULT



THE WHISPERWOOD LEGACY





JO SCHULTE

Ages 12 & up 352 Pages May 2025

Knives Out meets Melissa Albert's The Hazel Wood in this terrifyingly twisty and dark YA contemporary fantasy novel about an amusement park shrouded in dark secrets and the family desperate to inherit it at any cost.

Welcome to Whisperwood, a sprawling theme park nestled in the Appalachian foothills, where thrilling rides and picture-perfect scenery bring cult-favorite fairy tales to life. That is until the family's matriarch, Virginia Strauss, suddenly shut its gates eighteen months ago, leaving the beloved park to wither away along with the family's dwindling fortune.

For seventeen-year-old Frankie Strauss, Whisperwood's closure is a blessing in disguise. Corrupted by three generations of silver-spoon wealth, she is more than ready to shed the gilded, Strauss-family handcuffs.

But when Virginia goes missing, Frankie realizes that her family might be guilty of something much worse than mere dysfunction. With the help of the mysterious and handsome groundskeeper, Jem, Frankie sifts through a web of near truths and outright lies, uncovering a reality where nothing is as it seems and fairy tales aren't just real—they're deadly.

Jo Schulte is a British American who thrives at the intersection of the magical and the mundane. She lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

Scan to visit Jo online! Zodiac Academy meets Fourth Wing in this fast-paced and romantic debut, in which a teenage girl must survive ruthless werewolves, a glittering court, and deadly politics to exact revenge on the monsters who killed her best friend.

The night Vanessa Hart's best friend is brutally slaughtered by wolves, her life is changed forever. When her father finds Vanessa holding Celeste's dead body and sporting a nasty bite of her own, he doesn't bring her to a hospital—he hands her over to the very creatures responsible.

But these are no ordinary wolves...They're werewolves. And Vanessa's life now belongs to the treacherous Wolf Queen's Court.

A prisoner, Vanessa is confined to the enchanted Castle Severi, with only hatred for the wolves and nightmarish memories of Celeste's death to keep her company. But when—finally—she transforms into a werewolf, it's with the glowing purple eyes of an Alpha. Vanessa can either swear her life to the Court or die in the agony of a lone wolf.

Ushered into a world where flowering vines grow through the walls, gifts are bestowed by the stars, and a claw can break through skin as easily as silk, Vanessa must find a way to seek the vengeance she craves even as she finds herself mesmerized by the golden prince Sinclair Severi, who steals her heart though he is promised to her nemesis, and his brooding, disgraced cousin, Calix, whose smoldering gaze hides even darker secrets.

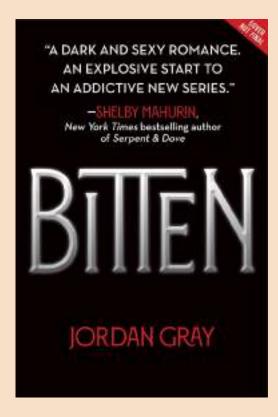
Immersed in the magic of werewolf society, Vanessa learns its malevolence goes beyond a single murderer in a midnight forest. The Court is at war, and she may simply be a pawn in its deadly game.

BITTEN

JORDAN GRAY

Ages 14 & up 400 Pages July 2025





Jordan Gray is a long-time daydreamer and writer of the fantastical and romantic and freelance editor to bestselling authors. In her free time, she can be found curled up with her pugs in her lap, rereading her favorite novels while teasing her middle schooler about how much kissing is in her own books (a lot). *Bitten* is her debut novel. You can find her on instagram @authorjordangray.

RIGHTS SOLD:

UK English (Hodder & Stoughton), German (Bastei Lubbe), French (Rageot Editeur), Spanish (Urano World Spain), Italian (Newton Compton), and Portuguese (Companhia das Letras) Scan to learn more about Jordan!





In this luxurious and icy sequel to *Heiress Takes*All, Olivia and her team travel to Switzerland for a new heist, but as the danger and the drama mount, Olivia will have to choose—who she loves, who she trusts, and who she's willing to risk to get what she wants.

Emily Wibberley and Austin Siegemund-Broka

met and fell in love in high school. Austin went on to graduate from Harvard, while Emily graduated from Princeton. Together, they are the authors of numerous YA novels, as well as adult romance. Now married, they live in Los Angeles, where they continue to take daily inspiration from their own love story.



Scan to visit Emily & Austin online!

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD: German (Fischer), French (Pocket Jeunesse)

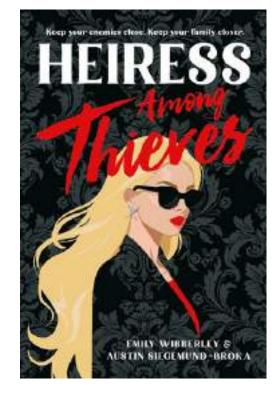




HEIRESS AMONG THIEVES

EMILY WIBBERLEY, AUSTIN SIEGEMUND-BROKA

Ages 12 & up 352 Pages June 2025



Stealing millions from her father at his own wedding was fun, but Olivia Owen's mastermind days aren't over yet. When an invitation arrives for her cold-hearted grandmother's seventieth birthday, to be hosted at the family's inherited Swiss castle, one thing and one thing only entices Olivia to accept: the vault full of gold waiting for her in the castle's icy dungeons.

Assembling her old crew—this time including her hopelessly loyal boyfriend Jackson—she's never felt more prepared for grand theft. Yet not everything is what it seems within the walls of the Owens castle. For starters, it turns out the week is to be less of a party and more of a wake. Leonie announces she's dying ... and plans to be buried with her fortune. Now that nobody will inherit her gold, everyone from conniving uncles to haughty cousins is looking at Olivia's target. Old backstabbers and uninvited guests only make things more complicated, not to mention her crew seems to be fracturing under mistrust and petty squabbles as the danger mounts around them.

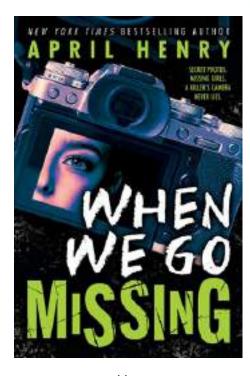
As Olivia faces her family's dark legacy of deceit, grift and maybe even murder, she's forced to weigh how deeply she loves Jackson with how her love might destroy him. Olivia can choose her crew, but she can't choose her family—or escape them, and in a family of thieves, that might cost her everything.

WHEN WE GO MISSING

APRIL HENRY

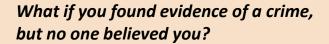
Ages 14 & up 272 Pages May 2025

New York Times bestselling author April Henry delivers a true-crime-style mystery featuring a teen determined to save a missing girl she sees in a disturbing photo.



Seventeen-year-old Willow always has a camera around her neck. She volunteers as a photographer at Finding Home animal shelter. When Willow stumbles upon a lost camera memory card, it's filled with hundreds of photos of teenage girls. Some are smiling, others unaware, and a few seem terrified.

The police tell her taking photos in public isn't a crime. But Willow can't seem to let it go, especially after she finds her own photo on the card. Willow teams up with new volunteer Dare to figure out what happened to the girls. As their investigation heats up, so does the chemistry between them. But everyone around Willow has a secret: Finding Home's owner, her own mom, and even Dare. When Willow learns that some of the girls on the camera card have gone missing, she realizes the unknown photographer might be a serial killer. Can Willow find him before he finds her?



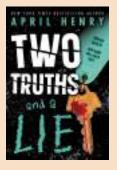


April Henry is the New York Times bestselling author of many acclaimed mysteries for adults and over fifteen novels for teens, including the bestselling Girl, Stolen; Girl Forgotten, which won the Edgar Award; Two Truths and a Lie; which was a YALSA Top Ten Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Adult Readers; and The Girl I Used to Be, which was an Edgar Award finalist and won the Anthony Award for Best YA Mystery. She lives in Oregon.

Scan to learn more about April!



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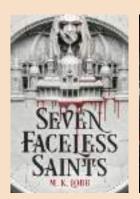
M.K. Lobb is a fantasy writer with a love of all things dark—whether literature, humor, or general aesthetic. She is the author of *Seven Faceless Saints* and *Disciples of Chaos*. She lives in Ontario with her partner and cats and invites you to follow her on Instagram @mk_lobb.

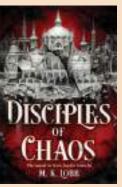
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M. K. online!



PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD:

UK English (Titan), French (Eilean Books), German (Bastei Lubbe), Spanish (Editorial Hidra), Italian (Fanucci Editore), Portuguese (Editora Rocco), Polish (Wydawnictwo), Russian (AST)







TO STEAL FROM THIEVES

M. K. LOBB

Ages 14 & up 400 Pages March 2025

Zaria Mendoza is a talented alchemologist, like her late father, able to create any magically powered weapon her dark market clients ask of her. But the work is piling up, materials aren't cheap, and life in Devil's Acre is getting more dangerous by the day. And though Zaria doesn't like to talk about it—even with her childhood friend, Jules—creating magic is slowly draining her life away.

Ward, the kingpin of the dark market, has an impossible task for Kane Durante: steal a certain necklace. It doesn't matter that the necklace is part of the Great Exhibition in London's Crystal Palace, where thousands of people, including the queen, will be in attendance. If successful, Kane's best friend, Fletcher, will be freed from the kingpin's command. Fail, and Ward will kill Fletcher himself. Zaria's fate becomes linked with Kane's when she agrees to help him with his heist—as long as extra jewels from the Crystal Palace are part of the deal. This is Zaria and Jules's only chance out of the hellhole they call home. There are just two problems: Zaria needs that necklace just as much as Kane does, and Kane has no intention of stealing extra jewels.

With time running out and the two of them determined to double-cross each other, who will come out on top?

I reached the clearing with the seven white pines and stopped to get my breath back. The mist filled my lungs, peppery and also sweet, and momentum pushed me forward. Giddy, I dropped into a bed of moss, soft and slick in spots, and rolled in it, howled for no reason, felt close to an understanding of some kind, as if an eye inside me was peeling open. It was the first full moon after I turned thirteen, and I knew that whatever happened in this next stretch of hours would change me forever after.

I wasn't wrong.

Three years ago, Talia lived happily in the ruins of the Neves, a once-grand hotel in the wilds of the Catskill Mountains, with her mother Pola and their community of like-minded women. Some came to the Neves to escape cruel men, others to hide from the law, but all found safety and connection in their haven high above civilization, cloaked by a mysterious mist that kept intruders away. But as their numbers grew, complications followed, and everything came crashing down the night electric lights pierced the forest. Uniformed men arrested Pola, calling her a murderer and a fugitive, and Talia was taken away.

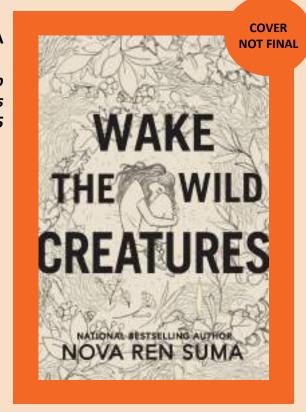
Now sixteen, Talia has been forced to live with family she barely knows and fit into a world scarred by misogyny, capitalism, disconnection from nature . . . everything the women of the Neves stood against. She has one goal: to return to the Neves. But as Talia awaits a signal from her mother, questions arise. Who betrayed her community, and what is she avoiding about her own role in its collapse? Is it truly magic that keeps the hotel so hidden? And what does it mean to embrace being her mother's daughter? With the help of an unexpected ally, Talia must find her way to answers, face a mother who's often kept her at arm's length, and try to reach the refuge she lost—if the mist hasn't swallowed her path home.

Fierce and lyrical, unsettling and tender, *Wake the Wild Creatures* marks the long-awaited return of one of the most distinctive voices in young adult literature.

WAKE THE WILD CREATURES

NOVA REN SUMA

Ages 14 & up 384 Pages May 2025



Nova Ren Suma is the author of the bestselling The Walls Around Us and A Room Away from the Wolves, which were both finalists for the Edgar Award. She also wrote Imaginary Girls and 17 & Gone and co-edited the story & craft anthology FORESHADOW: Stories to Celebrate the Magic of Reading & Writing YA. She has an MFA in fiction from Columbia University and has taught creative writing at Columbia University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Vermont College of Fine Arts. Originally from the Hudson Valley, she spent most of her adult life in New York City and now lives in Philadelphia.

Scan to learn more about Nova!

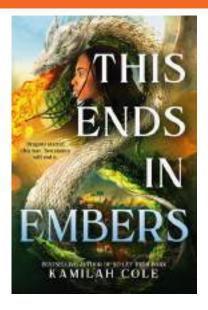


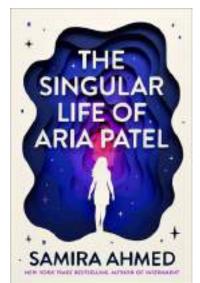
THIS ENDS IN EMBERS

KAMILAH COLE

Ages 14 & up 416 Pages February 2025

Faron Vincent has done the unthinkable: betrayed her country. Now she's alone, disgraced, and kidnapped, forced to help lya grow his bloody empire.





THE SINGULAR LIFE OF ARIA PATEL

SAMIRA AHMED

Ages 12 & up 368 Pages May 2025

Meanwhile, her sister Elara is left to pick up the pieces. As the new Empyrean, it's up to her to undo the damage her sister has done. But it's not only San Irie that's been brought back the brink of war— Iya fancies himself a conqueror, and no nation is safe from his brutal invasion. The world is on Elara's shoulders— save the sister, the best friend, the country, the world. But how can Elara save anyone if she's cracking under the pressure?

This heart-pounding conclusion to the Divine Traitors duology pushes our sisters to their breaking point, showing us that when the lines between hero and villain are blurred, deadly sacrifices will have to be made.

Kamilah Cole is a graduate of New York University, and the bestselling author of So Let Them Burn and This Ends in Embers.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD:

UK English (Little, Brown UK), French (Hachette Jeunesse), Spanish (Nocturna Ediciones), Portuguese (Galera Record), German (Karibu), Polish (Wydawnictwo) Redesigned cover for book 1!



For fans of You've Reached Sam and David Levitan's Every Day, this mind-bending second-chance romance explores the very nature of self.

Aria Patel likes security, certainty, predictability. It's why she's so into science. In a life that's already so chaotic, why worry about the metaphysical—emotions, relationships—when the physical is so much safer? But when Aria finds herself suddenly falling through parallel universes, there's no equation that can save her. Aria believes there's a theory for everything—but she can't seem to find one that explains why she's been waking up in a new reality almost every day.

As Aria navigates her falls through the multiverse, she finds herself forming unexpected bonds in parallel worlds—making it even more difficult to find a way back to her own reality—or want to.

Samira Ahmed is the New York Times bestselling author of Love, Hate, & Other Filters and Internment. She was born in Bombay, India, and has lived in New York, Chicago, and Kauai.

PREVIOUS RIGHTS SOLD: UK English (Little, Brown UK), Spanish (Grupo Anaya S. A.), French (Editions Bragelonne), Dutch (Blossom Books), Turkish (Ren Kitap), and Arabic (Hachette Antoine S. A. L.) Scan to visit Samira online!



"Tigest Girma has written the thrilling dark academia vampire romantasy of our dreams. **Original** and full-throated, this debut is fierce, mysterious, vengeful and so bloody good. Luckily for us, it's the first in a new series, and the deluxe limited edition is beautiful!"

- MS. MAGAZINE

"Immortal Dark hadn't been on my radar until now, but I need the rest of the trilogy published yesterday. I was hanging on every word, so much so that I read almost the entire book in one sitting because I had to know what came next. If you love a book with morally grey protagonists, new and rich magic systems and world building, sexy vampires and found family, then Immortal Dark is for you."

- BOOKTRIB

"Debut author Girma reels readers in with a promise of dark and dangerous romances, then ensnares them with fully fleshed-out morally gray characters and the uniquely rendered lore and politics of the trilogy opener's vampiric world."

- PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

"Tigest Girma's ambitious, vividly imagined debut conjures a complex, often messy world in which humans vie for power and vampires fight for control...Readers will likely enjoy the intricacies of the mythmaking, and ultimately be left pondering the price of survival in this rewarding and original read."

- SHELF AWARENESS

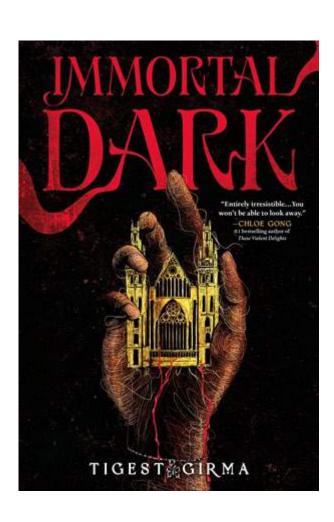


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IMMORTAL DARK

Love continues to pour in for this #1 New York Times Bestseller!



RUNNING PRESS KIDS

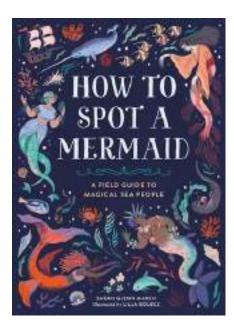


HOW TO SPOT A MERMAID

SARAH GLENN MARSH, LILLA BOLECZ

Ages 8 & up 144 Pages June 2025

A vibrant, illustrated guide to the mermaids and sea creatures living in the oceans, rivers, and streams (yes, really!) around the world.



For centuries, sailors have told tales of majestic—sometimes dangerous—creatures lurking beneath the ocean waves. Over the years, however, researchers have traced these legends to the very real world of merfolk. From yemayas and morgen to sirens, frosties, and more, this illustrated compendium of mermaids takes a deeper look at the different species swimming in seas around the world and highlights their magical abilities. Complete with interactive quizzes, activities, and crafts, this field guide will sweep you away on an underwater adventure!

Sarah Glenn Marsh is the bestselling author of several young adult novels and many picture books. Her Irish heritage has inspired a love of fairy folklore and fantastical storytelling from a young age. She lives with her husband, daughter, four dogs, two birds, and several fish in Richmond, Virginia.

Lilla Bölecz is an artist and folklore lover who specializes in graphic art, book illustration, dollmaking, and pattern design. Her work is mostly inspired by mysticism, legends, spiritual experiences, mythology, and literature. Lilla uses both digital and traditional media, including ink, gouache, clay, and acrylics. She is always looking for meaningful connections, and to bring to life the unconventional and unique.





Learn how to find Kraken, Mothman, Microbats, and more in this fun, fact-filled, STEM-based cryptozoology book for fans of *The Book* of Mythical Beasts and Magical Creatures.

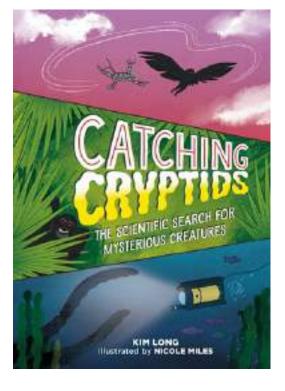
Kim Long is a middle child and the only one of her siblings who did not pursue a true profession in math or science. Instead, she finds herself writing books featuring . . . math and science. Go figure. Her middle grade novel, Lexi Magill and the Teleportation Tournament was a Texas Bluebonnet Master List Selection. When not writing, she enjoys biking, board games, and hanging out with friends and family.

Nicole Miles is an illustrator from The Bahamas who currently lives in West Yorkshire (UK) with her pet snake and human boyfriend. She loves any opportunity to inform and entertain with her illustrations.

CATCHING CRYPTIDS

KIM LONG, NICOLE MILES

Ages 8 & up 144 Pages May 2025











For years the kraken was considered a mythical beast. Then, in 2004, high-tech cameras captured a photo of a living giant squid. Advances in technology have provided scientists with new tools to study previously undiscovered, unresearched habitats: high-tech cameras, forensic analysis, underwater robots, infrared sensors, drones, remote control photography and measurement tools, airborne DNA, footprint identification, and more.

Catching Cryptids explores these technological advances in a fun way by pairing them with mythical creatures and discussing how modern technology could be used to locate or "catch" these beasts. The book includes a mini history of each cryptid, along with interesting facts about the corresponding field of science, and spot illustrations throughout.

Featuring over 45 creatures found on land, in water, and among the skies, *Catching Cryptids* will leave readers wondering *what's next?* The phoenix? Dragons? The possibilities are endless!



MAKE YOUR OWN RAINBOW

LIL MISS HOT MES, OLGA DE DIOS RUIZ

Ages 4 - 8 40 Pages May 2025

Explore a kaleidoscope of colors beyond the rainbow in this celebratory and empowering book by Drag Story Hour storyteller Lil Miss Hot Mess!

Drag queens love to dance to their own beat, speak their minds, and let their best selves shine. They love all the colors of the rainbow—as well as all the colors beyond!

From scarlet, marigold, lemon, and emerald, to azure, periwinkle, Byzantium, and onyx, the world's diverse range of colors allows drag queens and kings to be authentic and creative. And you, too, can use any color or hue to express yourself and your fierce imagination! Travel through a colorful, playful, and uplifting world with Drag Story Hour co-founder Lil Miss Hot Mess and whimsical illustrator Olga De Dios in their latest inclusive picture book.

Lil Miss Hot Mess the author of *The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish, Swish, Swish* and *If You're a Drag Queen and You Know It*, and has written for *Wired, Salon*, and *The Guardian*. She's performed at venues from Stanford to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art to *Saturday Night Live*.

Olga de Dios is a creator of children's books whose work focuses on equality, freedom, and justice. Her first book, *Pink Monster*, has been translated into twelve languages. She lives in Madrid, Spain.





GOODNIGHT, PICKLEBALL

CHUCK SAMBUCHINO, MIKE DEAS

Ages 4 - 8 32 Pages August 2025

A young girl helps cheer on her dad's pickleball team while learning America's fastest growing sport in this delightful bedtime picture book!

Grab your paddles, balls, and a bunch of friends--it's time to play pickleball! Goodnight, Pickleball celebrates this trending sport, capturing the excitement of the game through the eyes of a young girl who is cheering on her dad's team on the pickleball court. After the game, the girl says goodnight to all the picklers and the gear before getting tucked into bed with a brand new surprise treat. The book will include a glossary of pickleball terms for any beginning enthusiast! This is a great introduction to pickleball for the younger generation and a wonderful read aloud especially at bedtime for adults who want to share their love of this sport with children in their life.

Chuck Sambuchino is the author of 20+ books, including the *Guide to Literary Agents*, and the humor book *How to Survive a Garden Gnome Attack*. He is a professional editor and the founder of <u>Writing Day Workshops</u>. Chuck is involved in the Ohio pickleball scene. He lives in Cincinnati with his 10-year-old daughter, who got her first pickleball paddle last year.

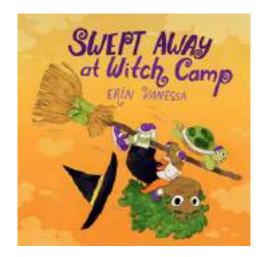
Mike Deas is an illustrator of children's books and graphic novels. Capilano College's Commercial Animation Program in Vancouver helped Mike fine-tune his drawing skills and imagination. Work as a concept artist, texture artist, and art lead in the video game industry took Mike to England and California. Mike lives with his family on sunny Salt Spring Island.

SWEPT AWAY AT WITCH CAMP

ERIN VANESSA

Ages 4 - 8 32 Pages May 2025

A magical story of a little witch who must face her fears of failure in order to succeed at camp. An inclusive picture book featuring two mommies and a child with a hearing device for fans of *Kiki's Delivery Service*.



Sid loves being a witch. She can make a Rainbow Mushroom potion. She can turn butterflies into frogs. And she can use her crystal ball to predict the weather! But she's nervous about starting Witch Camp. Why? Because Sid has a secret—she can't fly on a broomstick!

Sid confesses to her moms that she's nervous about the Broomstick Race and that she's going to quit Witch Camp for good. But then something happens at home, reminding Sid that being a witch isn't just about flying well—and that maybe trying your best and not giving up is part of Witch Camp too. This empowering book about self-esteem provides kids with a spunky role model for facing one's fears and trying to succeed.

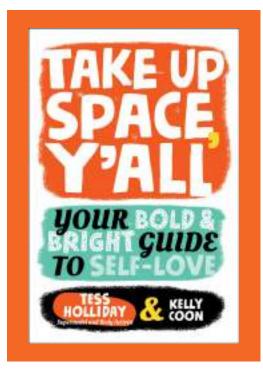
Erin Vanessa is a former video game producer who's been drawing and painting for most of her life. Her artwork is handpainted with watercolor, gouache, and pencil crayon. Her inspirations include video games, beautiful food, and vintage botanical illustrations. She is the authorillustrator of You Do You-nicorn. She lives and works in Canada.



TAKE UP SPACE, Y'ALL

TESS HOLLIDAY, KELLY COON

Ages 4 - 8 176 Pages August 2025



Make your own rules and treat your body well in this uplifting, inspirational, and fact-filled guide to navigating social media, healthy eating, and loving your body by top plus-size model Tess Holliday and award-winning author Kelly Coon.

Tess Holliday and co-author, Kelly Coon, are combating the immense pressures society places on teens--from grades to social status to looks--and acknowledging these can have a negative impact on one's physical and mental health. Through fun quizzes, bit-sized stories, writing prompts, and digestible sidebars, this guide is sure to empower you to unleash self-love and to conquer societal pressures while having fun at the same time.

Tess Holliday is one of the world's most famous plus-size models and the first of her size ever to be signed to a major agency. She has been a pioneer of the body positivity movement since 2010, broke boundaries with her *Cosmo* UK cover, and was the first-ever digital cover star for *Self*. She is one of the top six plus-size models globally by *Vogue Italia*. She has created and sold her own clothing lines, speaks at panels around the world, consults for H&M on inclusivity and diversity, and has hosted a podcast.

Kelly Coon is an educator with more than twenty years' writing experience. She was executive editor for Blue Ocean Brain, a high school English teacher, and is a published fiction and nonfiction author for teens and adults. She's written articles for *The Washington Post, Scary Mommy, ThoughtCo*, and more.

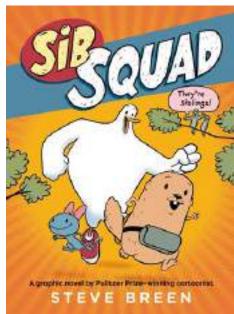


SIB SQUAD

STEVE BREEN

Ages 5 - 8 96 Pages April 2025

Bask in the gleeful rebellion of three younger siblings as they seek bold adventures far away from their older siblings in this hilarious early graphic novel.



The youngest of seven siblings, Lucy, Bruce, and Oliver are sick and tired of being told that they are too young to do the things their older siblings do. In a bout of bored frustration, they band together to form the Sib Squad—a club of their own dedicated to having "amazing, mind-blowing adventures." And adventures they have! Award-winning cartoonist Steve Breen crafts a riotously fun look at sibling dynamics that will be beloved by downtrodden younger siblings everywhere.

In this first book in the series, the Sib Squad launches the club at their tree house headquarters, then they find themselves drawn into multiple adventures that include wishes at a wishing well gone wrong and an

unlikely encounter with a younger sibling from outer space. As young readers delve into the trio's hijinks, they will find themselves struck with uncontrollable giggles and an unquenchable desire to seek adventures of their own.



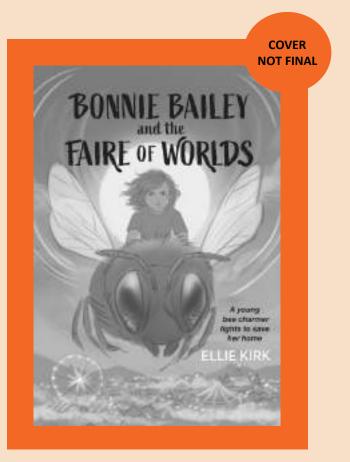




BONNIE THE BEE CHARMER AND THE FAIRE OF WORLDS

ELLIE KIRK

Ages 8 - 12 288 Pages July 2025



Join Bonnie Bailey as she runs away with a magical, worldtraveling Faire in this epic middle-grade fantasy about finding your own strength.

Thirteen-year-old Bonnie Bailey comes from a long line of beekeepers. But her family's apiary is failing, and Bonnie and her mom need money fast if they have any chance of keeping it going. So when a mysterious woman appears among the hives and offers Bonnie a job at a faire that's in town for one night only, Bonnie reluctantly takes a chance. But this Faire isn't a regular carnival. Oh no. This Faire is a sentient, magical being that exists in a nomadic pocket reality and is run by people and creatures from countless universes.

Bonnie is soon swept into a world full of unimaginable wonders and dangerous entities. She befriends a young turtle-wrangling cowboy and his faithful Pegasus; learns how to tend to a colony of giant bees; experiences magical happenings; and discovers that not everything at the Faire is as happy as it seems.

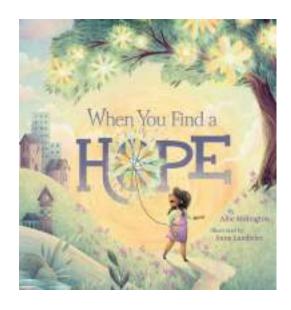
When the faire is threatened by dark forces, Bonnie faces an impossible decision: return to the safety of her own reality or stay and fight to protect this fantastical world she has grown to love? With a cast of unforgettable characters and boundless fantastical curiosities, *Bonnie Bailey and the Faire of Worlds* will lure readers back again and again.

As a child, Ellie Kirk couldn't wait for the carnival to come to town every fall. Her memories (along with a healthy dose of imagination) inspired the magical Faire of Worlds, the setting for her novel. Ellie lives at the southernmost tip of New Jersey, between the Atlantic Ocean and the Delaware Bay. When she's not at the beach she enjoys working in her pollinator garden, a safe haven for bugs, birds, and bees. Ellie also makes the best homemade cannoli in all the land (shells and filling!).

WHEN YOU FIND A HOPE

ALLIE MILLINGTON,
ANNE LAMBELET

Ages 4 - 7 32 Pages May 2025



Experience the improbable beauty of a shattered hope born anew in this magical tale about a young girl, a tree full of hopes, and the power of perseverance.

In this tale of unexplained wonder, there is a tree that grows hope from its branches. A curious girl visits the tree and plucks the largest, brightest hope she can find. Her hope can float, so she tethers it to her side and takes it with her everywhere. But when the unimaginable happens and

her hope is crushed, she drags the pieces of her precious hope along until even those have been lost along the way. Looking back, she finds that small trees have begun to sprout in her wake, the beautiful offerings of her now firmly rooted, thriving hope.

The first picture book from best-selling author Allie Millington (*Olivetti*), this moving story celebrates the importance of holding onto hope and the improbable beauty of a lost hope born anew.



Allie Millington wrote this story during a season when one of her own hopes becoming a published author—had been crushed. She is grateful her hope soon blossomed anew, and she is able to share this book and others with readers. Her debut middle-grade novel, Olivetti, was an instant national bestseller and received numerous starred reviews, as well as a review in the New York Times by actor and typewriter enthusiast Tom Hanks. She invites you to follow her on Instagram @allieinink.

Scan to learn more about Allie!



Anne Lambelet studied illustration at the University of the Arts and has had the pleasure of illustrating many children's books since. She is the author-illustrator of three picture books: Maria the Matador, Dogs and Their People, and The Poisoned Apple. She currently lives in Philadelphia with her husband, her toddler, and her exceptionally fluffy dog.



MAKE WAY FOR HARRIET AND MAY

ELIZABETH WEISS VERDICK, YANA KOZAK

Ages 4 - 7 32 Pages July 2025



RIPENING TIME

MELISSA DASSORI

Ages 4 - 7 32 Pages April 2025



Join May and her stuffed-animal spider, Harriet, as May learns to be brave and step out of her comfort zone in this joyful story about being different.

May likes calm and quiet, because oftentimes, the world is too noisy and busy for her to handle. She's more comfortable playing alone than with other children. But one day, when she's hiding beneath a shopping cart at the store, she sees a beautiful, stuffed-animal spider. May names the spider Harriet and convinces her mother to let her take Harriet home. Soon May and Harriet become inseparable—building cuddle caves, having sleepovers, drawing, and playing. Snug in a Harriet hug, May can brave public places. With Harriet, May feels safe, and the world feels less scary.

This joyful and empathetic tale of friendship explores the concept of sensory overload and the different ways people experience and interact with the world, with a message that May's differences are something to be loved and celebrated, not problems that need to be fixed.

Elizabeth Weiss Verdick is the author of Teeth Are Not for Biting, Small Walt, Bike & Trike, and Peep Leap. She is also the coauthor of The Survival Guide for Kids with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Elizabeth lives in Minnesota with her family.

Scan to visit Elizabeth online!



Yana Kozak is a children's book illustrator from Ukraine. She earned a degree in journalism and worked for several years for newspapers and TV. For the past few years, she has been doing what she always dreamed of—illustrating children's book full-time.

Celebrate the power of food to create delicious, lasting memories with this poetic and playful exploration of the joy of waiting for, and finally sharing, fried plantains.

Mama steers the cart toward the produce section of the grocery store and picks up a bunch of green plantains. Thus begins a week of anxious anticipation as a young girl waits for mustard yellows to seep onto the unripe green peels. By Thursday, black marks begin to splotch and streak across the plantains. And finally, on Sunday, the frying pan sizzles and hisses, as Mama serves up the warm, sugary slices the young girl has waited for so long.

Much like there is sweet treasure hidden beneath the skin of a plantain, this beautifully written and evocative story reaches far beyond the act of preparing a favorite food. *Ripening Time* celebrates the way food and family entwine to connect us across generations—and serves as a touching reminder that some of the sweetest rewards in life are worth the wait.

Patrice Gopo is the child of Jamaican immigrants and was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska. She is an award-winning essayist and author of *All the Places We Call Home*. She lives with her family in North Carolina—another place she considers home.

Carlos Vélez Aguilera has illustrated for books, magazines, and animation projects, including his own authored book, *Salón Destino*. He works in pencil and ink to create sketches and character studies, then colors his work digitally.

GET IN TOUCH

Please reach out to us with any questions or material requests.

Happy reading!

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