



# ASTRA BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS



**RIGHTS GUIDE 2023–2024**

Artwork from *Simone*, illustrated by Minnie Phan



# Meet our imprints!

 **ASTRA YOUNG READERS**

  
CALKINS CREEK

 *Hippo Park*

**KANE**  
PRESS

 **minerva**

FOR VISUAL READERS  
**TOON BOOKS®**

**WORDSONG**

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# NEW TITLES FOR SPRING 2024



Artwork from *Cactus Queen*,  
illustrated by Jenn Ely





## Jump for Joy

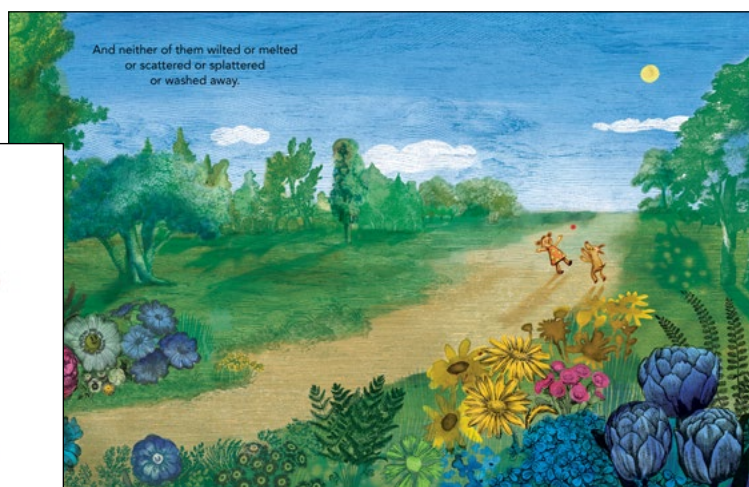
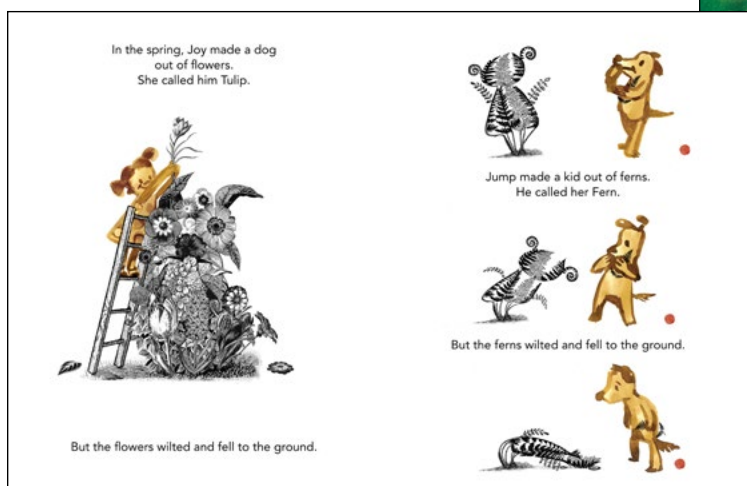
by Karen Gray Ruelle

illustrated by Hadley Hooper

Kid seeks dog. Dog seeks kid. In this charming and imaginative tale of friendship, picture book readers will delight in what it means to have a furry best friend.

For as long as she can remember, Joy has wanted a dog. It doesn't matter what kind: big, little, spotted, curly. She wants one so fiercely, she makes dogs out of snow, seashells, or whatever's at hand! However, none of the dogs Joy makes are quite what she yearns for. The seashell dog washes away, and the snow dog melts into a puddle. Little does Joy know that her perfect dog friend is just around the corner—wishing just as fiercely for a kid—and waiting to be discovered.

Award-winning artist Hadley Hooper creates a world that is both timeless and magical as she weaves ink, paint, and collages made from vintage etchings together in a style that perfectly complements the classic feel of *Jump for Joy*. Readers will rejoice in this satisfying kid-meets-dog story, and will savor returning to this world again and again.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Originally from Maryland, **Karen Gray Ruelle** is a children's book author and illustrator currently based in New York. Her numerous books include *The Grand Mosque of Paris*, co-created with Deborah Durland Desaix, which was an ALSC Notable Book and an Orbis Pictus Award Recommended Title, as well as *The Crunchy, Munchy Christmas Tree* and *April Fool!*

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Hadley Hooper** is an illustrator and painter whose work has been featured in *The New Yorker*, *Rolling Stone*, and the *New York Times*, where she was a weekly contributor to the Style section. She has illustrated several children's books, including *The Elephants Come Home* and *The Iridescence of Birds*. Visit [hadleyhooper.com](http://hadleyhooper.com).

**ON SALE: January 2024**

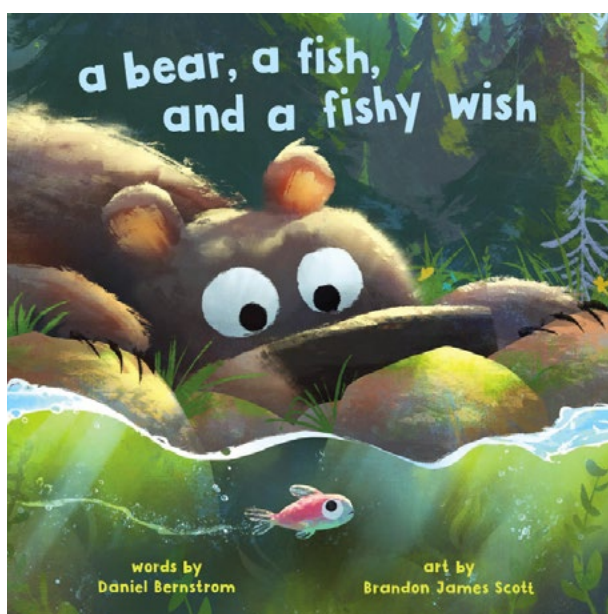
**Ages 3–7**

**32pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**TERRITORY: World, all languages**





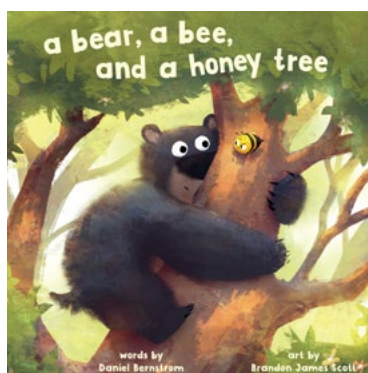
## A Bear, a Fish, and a Fishy Wish

by Daniel Bernstrom

illustrated by

Brandon James Scott

Don't miss *A Bear, a Bee, and a Honey Tree*!



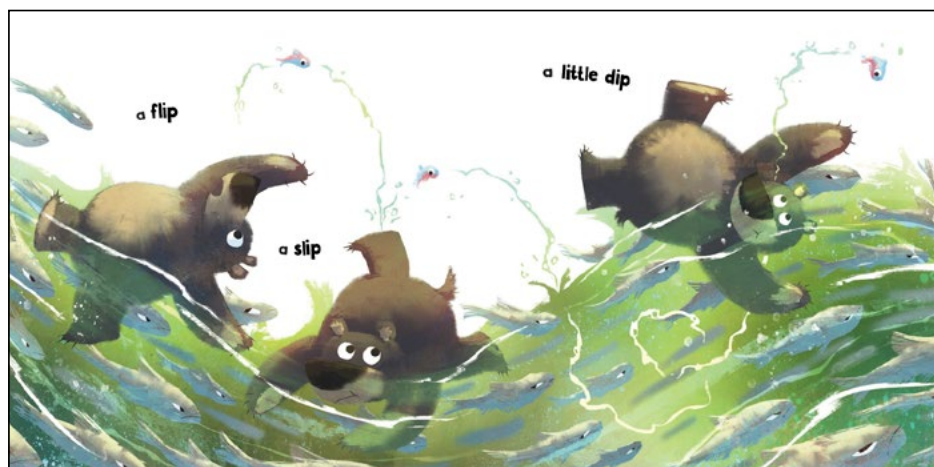
RIGHTS SOLD: French (mineditionFr);  
German (mineditionAG)

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Daniel Bernstrom** is a poet and the author of six picture books, including *One Day in the Eucalyptus*, *Eucalyptus Tree*, illustrated by Brendan Wenzel. His book *Big Papa and the Time Machine* won the Minnesota Book Award. Daniel lives in Worthington, Minnesota with his wife and five adorable children.

From the creators of *A Bear, a Bee, and a Honey Tree* comes another fun-to-read romp featuring lovable, hungry Bear. This time, he's after a determined fish, who has an altogether different plan!

Readers of the beloved *A Bear, a Bee, and a Honey Tree* met a bear who longed for honey, but never got to eat any. In this boisterous follow-up, will Bear's luck change? He's spotted a fish! And his wish? To gobble up this delicious fish dish, of course! Sadly for Bear, this is no ordinary fish—he's a homesick fellow determined to get back upstream where he belongs. Once again, Daniel Bernstrom and Brandon James Scott show off their deep understanding of what makes kids laugh. The longing, the chase, the action, and splash—and the delightfully tongue twisting text—will have kids asking to hear this story again and again. With just a few words and page after page of fantastic expressions, *A Bear, a Fish, and a Fishy Wish* has the madcap energy and playfulness that keeps kids riveted—as they learn to read!



### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

By day **Brandon James Scott** is a Creative Director working in animation and by night he illustrates picture books. He has worked on a range of hit animated entertainment including his own creation, the award-winning series, *Justin Time*. He loves to make art that brings adventure, levity, heart, and curiosity for the fantastic and whimsical world around us.

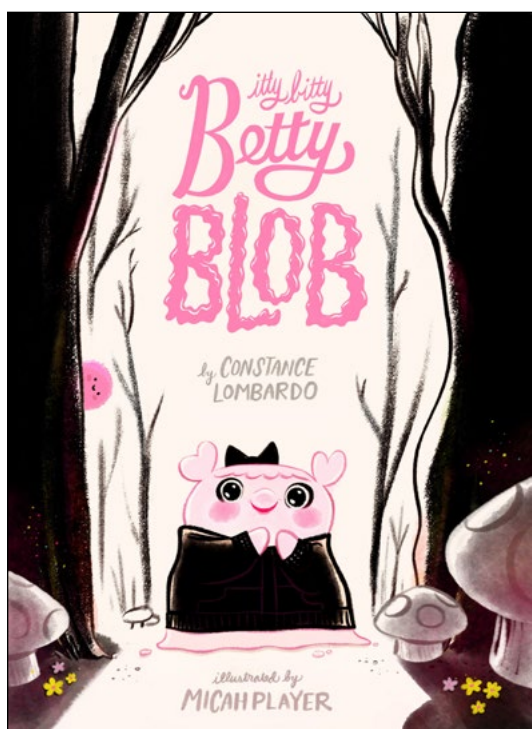
**ON SALE: May 2024**  
**Ages 4–8**

**40pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD: France & Germany (pending)**

**TERRITORY: World, all languages**





## Itty Bitty Betty Blob

by **Constance Lombardo**

Illustrated by **Micah Player**

More from Constance Lombardo!



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Constance Lombardo** began drawing when she was 10 years old, inspired in part by the Illustrators Annuals her dad brought home from the advertising agency where he worked, and in part by her sister doing a drawing and getting lots of attention. She's the author/illustrator of the middle grade Mr. Puffball series (HarperCollins) the picture book, Everybody Says Meow, and Hippo Park's hilarious Tiny Spoon vs. Little Fork. She lives in Asheville, NC with her family.

**Itty Bitty Betty Blob** wants to growl for the camera on monster picture day, but every year it goes wrong. Will practice make perfect? Or can Betty find a way to be her own blobby little smiling self?

A tender, funny picture book with massive monster appeal—perfect for fans of *Sweetie* by Andrea Zuyll and classics, such as *Stand Tall*, *Molly Lou Melon* and *Chrysanthemum*.

It's monster picture day again, and Itty Bitty Betty Blob sits in front of the mirror where she practices growling for the camera. But for Betty it's not so easy. She's not a typical monster, so she doesn't love scaring people. What she loves is dancing and rainbows and cute furry creatures. So when mom hands her a perfectly horrible scaly black dress to wear on picture day, Betty isn't sure. Of course she wants to make mom happy, so she practices her growls in the mirror, and tries to look as monstrous as her school friends. She even heads off to school with high hopes, practicing all the way there . . . and that's when she makes a discovery and soon finds herself among new friends with ideas that just feel right.



### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Micah Player** began his illustration career designing and illustrating for Paul Frank Industries. He is the author/illustrator of the picture books *Chloe*, *Instead* and the *Lately Lily* series (Chronicle Books). He is the illustrator more recently of two books by Lucky Diaz: *Palatero Man* and *La Guitarrista* (Harper). He lives in a little house beneath a giant tree in the Utah mountains, with a lovely schoolteacher (and wife) named Stephanie. They are the parents of two kids, one Yorkshire terrier, and several Casio keyboards.

**ON SALE: June 2024**  
**Ages 4–8**  
**40pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**





## Mermaids' Song to the Sea

by Dianna Hutts Aston

Illustrated by Renee Kurilla

Three little diverse mermaids set off to deliver charming bedtime blessings to all the creatures of the ocean in this sweetly reassuring rhyming picture book.

In this gorgeous rhyming picture book perfect for cozy bedtime reading, three mermaid troubadours sing their blessings to sea creatures everywhere. “Bless clams in their beds, and lobsters in pods,” they sing. “Sharks in their shivers, and squids in their squads.” Draped with leis and strumming harps, the mermaids travel the ocean to deliver a benediction to their beloved community—fish, whales, sharks, sea snails and many more. Endpapers will identify all of the featured ocean creatures in this one-of-a-kind book that honors the denizens of the sea and brims with a gentle spirit of kindness and environmental awareness. With colorful, ethereal illustrations that will have young mermaid lovers turning the pages again and again, this special picture book is ideal for gift giving, vacation/staycation readalouds, or enjoying in a group storytime anywhere.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

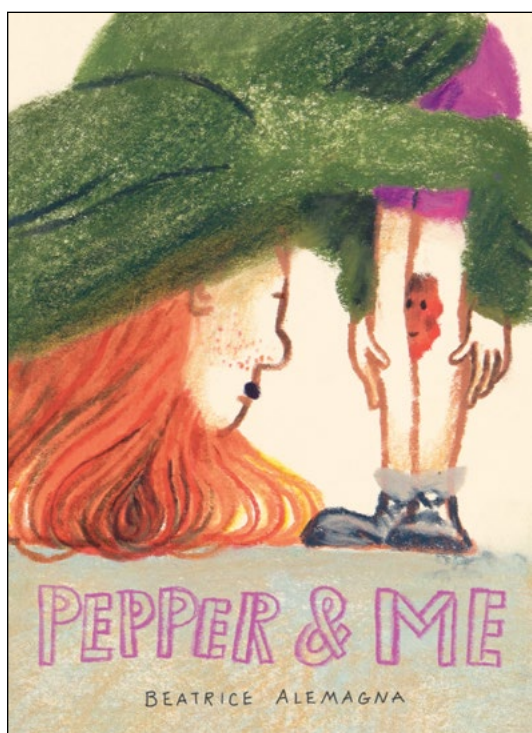
**Dianna Hutts Aston** is the award-winning author of many acclaimed picture books celebrating the awe and wonder of nature. Her seven titles in the An Egg is Quiet series include *A Rock Is Lively*, which was a 2022 Boston Globe Best Children's Book of the Year. She wrote *The Moon Over Star*, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney, which won a Caldecott Honor in 2008.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Renee Kurilla** is the illustrator of many children's books, including *Orangutanka*, *Chicks Rule!*, and the Ada Lace series. She is also the author-illustrator of several titles, including *One Springy*, *Singy Day* and *The Flower Garden*, a 2022 ALA Graphic Comics Round Table Best Graphic Novel Pick. Renee holds an BFA in illustration from Lesley University College of Art and Design.

**ON SALE: April 2024**  
**Ages 4–8**  
**48pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**





## Pepper & Me

by Beatrice Alemagna

From three-time *New York Times* Best Illustrated creator of *On a Magical Do-Nothing Day* comes a stunning picture book about a little girl, the scab on her knee, and the healing they do together.

In this utterly enchanting and unexpected tale from international picture book star Beatrice Alemagna, a childhood mishap is the occasion for growth and self-reflection. When a little girl falls on the street, scraping her knee, her father tells her not to worry, that “a beautiful scab will form.” But she does worry! The scab is not beautiful and it’s keeping her from bending her knee! When will it ever go away? By the time the scab—who she has named Pepper—falls off, something astonishing has happened: the girl has come to feel affection for the scab and has a hard time letting go. With an unerring understanding of a child’s emotional life and a dash of absurdist wit, this picture book will stand with classics from creators like Tomi Ungerer and William Steig, who explore the weird, funny essence of childhood.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Beatrice Alemagna** was born in Italy in 1973. At the age of eight, she decided that whatever the cost she would become a “painter and writer of novels” when she grew up. Alemagna is the author-illustrator of more than 40 books that have been translated and published in 25 countries, and she has received numerous awards for her books, including three New York Times Best Illustrated Children’s Book Awards, and a special prize at the Bologna Book Fair this past year. She has been nominated numerous times for the Astrid Lindgren Prize.

**ON SALE: January 2024**

**Ages 4–8**

**48pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:** France (Ecole des Loisirs); Italy (Topipittori); English (UK & BC excl Can) (Thames & Hudson); South Korea (BIR Publishing); Taiwan (Linking Publishing); China (Ronshin)

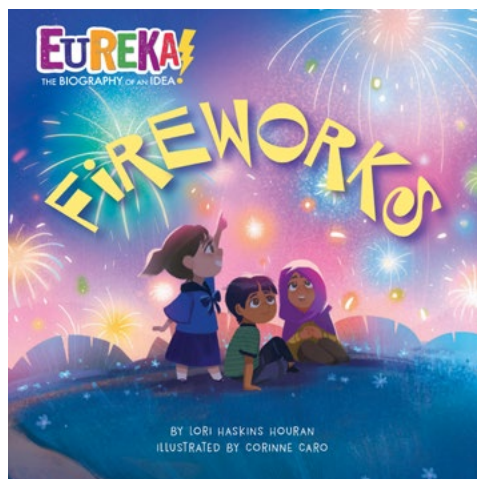
**TERRITORY:** World, all languages



# EUREKA!

THE BIOGRAPHY OF AN IDEA

An 8-book series



## Fireworks



## Video Games

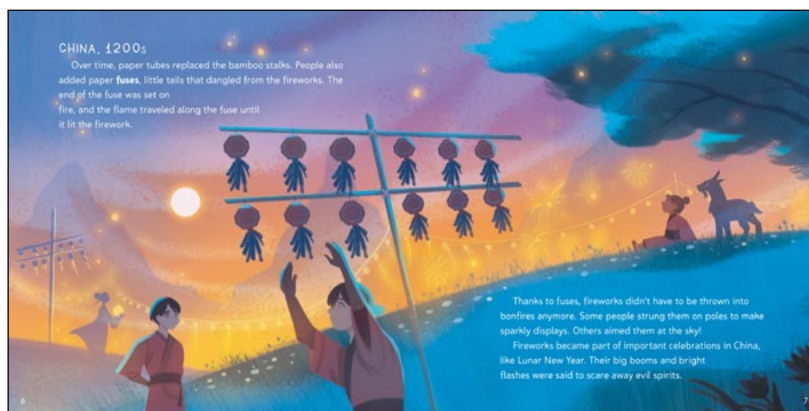


## NSTA/CBC Best STEM Books

**EUREKA!** Great things happen when science crosses history! Discover the all-true stories of your favorite inventions with this multicultural STEM series that takes readers on a journey through time and around the world. A perfect choice for kids who love to figure out how things work!

Each book in this nonfiction series focuses on one groundbreaking, world-changing discovery that millions of people use every day. Titles include: *Bicycle*, *Camera*, *Fireworks (new)*, *Glasses*, *Guitar*, *Light Bulb*, *Video Games (new)*, and *Wind Power*.

“Perfect for STEM lessons and future innovators, this fun and informative series has a lot to offer.” —*School Library Journal*



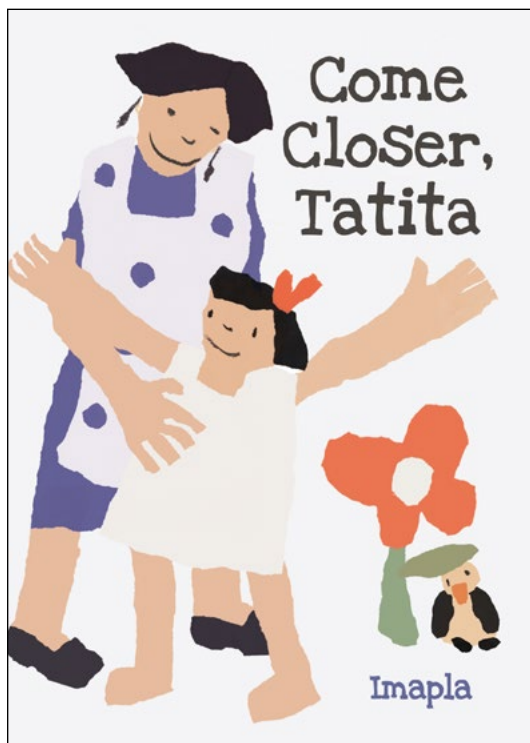
ON SALE: June 2024

Ages 4–8

32pp

RIGHTS SOLD: Indonesian: Indonesia non-exclusive (Badan Pengembangan), Turkish ebook (KidzBOO); Korean (Smile Books)  
TERRITORY: World, all languages





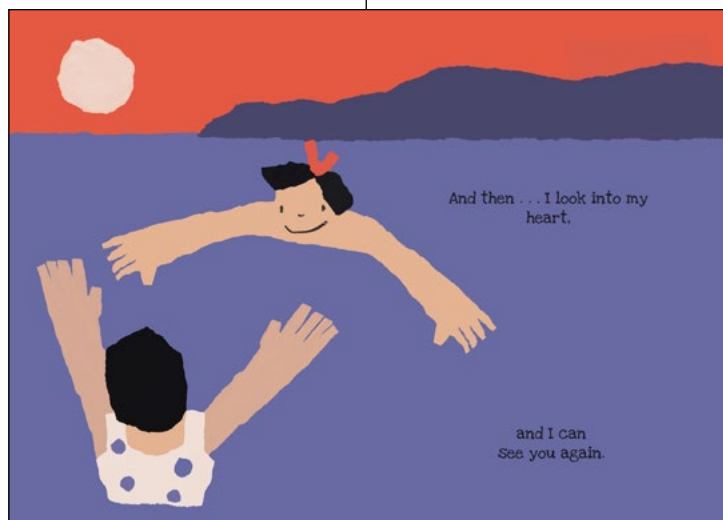
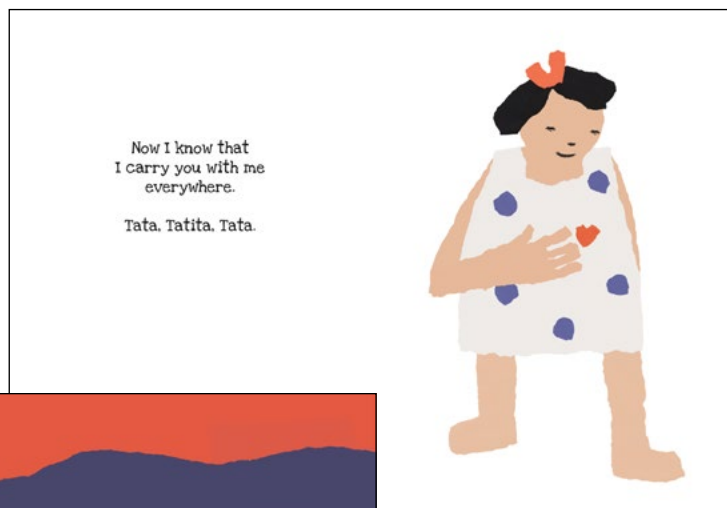
## Come Closer, Tatita

by Imapla

Also available in Spanish:  
*Tata, Tatita, Tata*

A young girl's five senses take her on a journey through sweet memories of her tatita, her grandmother, in this heartfelt picture book.

This moving tale introduces the youngest picture book audience to a girl who misses her grandmother—whom she calls Tata or Tatita, as is traditional in many Spanish-speaking cultures—and yearns to spend time with her. But Tatita is not here any more. The spare, striking illustrations make it ambiguous whether the girl misses her tata because she lives in a faraway place, is ill, or has passed on. Yet this gorgeous, deceptively simple book's ending makes it clear that no matter what, your tatita lives in your heart, and you can always hold her in your memory.

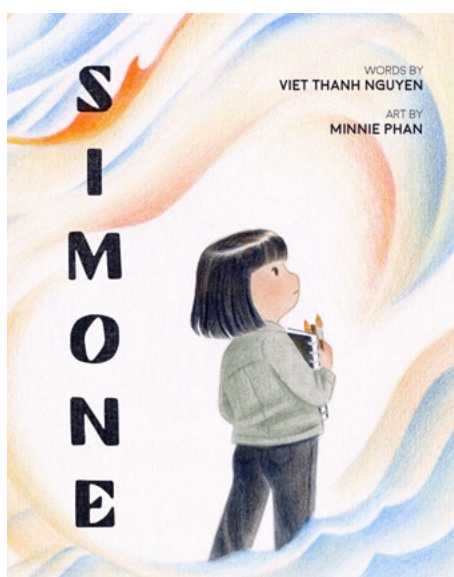


### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Imapla** is an award-winning picture book creator and graphic designer from Barcelona whose books are published throughout the Spanish-speaking world. *Lola Loves Animals*, her American debut, was published in 2022.

**ON SALE: March 2024**  
**Ages 4–8**  
**40pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**





## Simone

by Viet Thanh Nguyen

Illustrated by Minnie Phan

From Pulitzer Prize-winning author Viet Thanh Nguyen and illustrator Minnie Phan comes an unforgettable story of a Vietnamese American girl whose life is transformed by a wildfire.

When Simone is awakened by her mom as a wildfire threatens their home, it is the beginning of a life-changing journey. On their way to take shelter in a high school gym, the family passes firefighters from a prison unit battling the fire. Simone's mom tells her that when she was a girl in Viet Nam, she was forced to evacuate her home after a flood. Joined by other children sheltering in the gym, Simone, a budding artist, encourages everyone to draw as a way to process their situation. After a few days, Simone and her mom are able to return to their home, which is fortunately still standing, and her outlook has changed. As Simone begins creating a piece of art with one of her new friends from the shelter, she realizes that they too can be firefighters, dreaming and working for a more sustainable future. With a poetic, haunting family story by esteemed author Viet Thanh Nguyen and gorgeous art from Vietnamese American illustrator Minnie Phan, this powerful tale introduces an unforgettable young heroine who awakens to a new role fighting for her community and for the future of the planet.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Viet Thanh Nguyen** is a Vietnamese American author and professor. Viet's debut novel, *The Sympathizer*, won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. He also coauthored with his son *Chicken of the Sea*, a picture book illustrated by Thi Bui and her son. He lives in Los Angeles, California.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

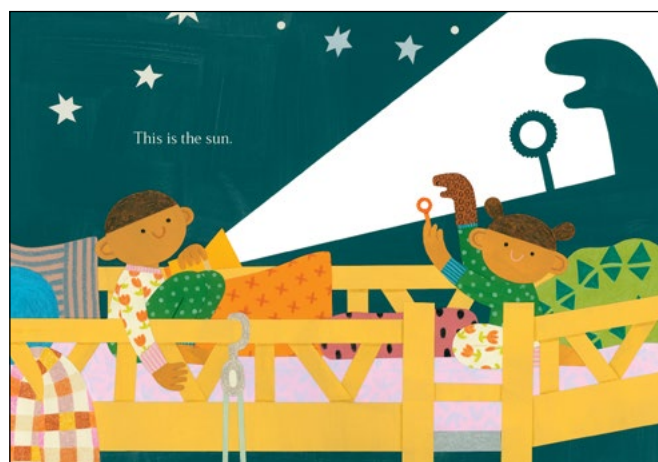
**Minnie Phan** is a queer Vietnamese American cartoonist and illustrator born in Stockton, CA, and raised across the Bay Area. Her debut picture book was *The Yellow Áo Dài*, written by Hanh Bui. Minnie's work also includes animation and comics, and she has created art for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the San Francisco Public Library.

**ON SALE: May 2024**  
**Ages 4–8**  
**48pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**



## This Is a Window

by Lauren Paige Conrad



The power of childrens' imaginations takes center stage in this gorgeous, playful rhyming picture book about a group of kids who build a make-believe world in their homes.

Just look at what you can build out of ordinary stuff when you follow your imagination! Children and their caretakers will love this beguiling child-led tour of a make-believe world constructed from everyday household and backyard objects. Words and pictures work together cleverly to spark eureka moments: that "ship" is really a table, that "dark cave" is really a laundry basket, and more, as a day full of building, playing, and pretending turns into bedtime. Children will use their own imaginations and storytelling skills as they figure out what the book's busy characters are up to in the gorgeous collage-style art. With perfect rhymes that make it an irresistible read-aloud, this delightful book is a classic in the making perfect for a wide audience of parents and childcare professionals, especially anyone seeking a book that celebrates creative play.

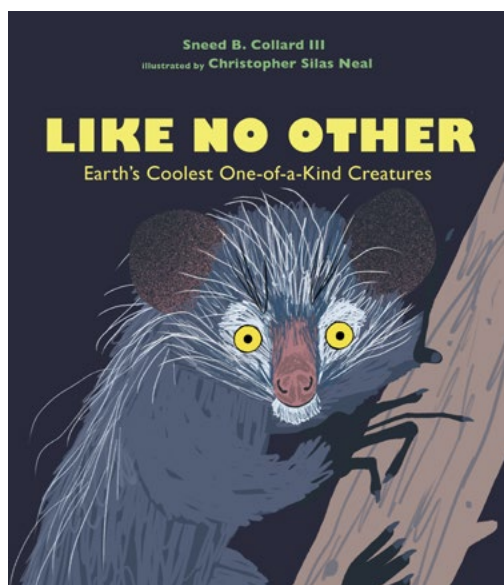


### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Lauren Paige Conrad** is a self-taught illustrator based in Asheville, NC. She received a BS in textiles from the University of Georgia in 2008 before going on to study fashion design at FIDM San Francisco. After working in product development and with small-scale textile studios, Lauren turned to illustration in 2016. Lauren works in cut paper, gouache, colored pencil, and Neocolor crayon. Lauren is the illustrator of *Your One and Only Heart*, written by Rajani LaRocca.

**ON SALE: April 2024**  
**Ages 4–8**  
**40pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**





## Like No Other Earth's Coolest One- of-a-Kind Creatures

by **Sneed B. Collard III**  
Illustrated by  
**Christopher Silas Neal**



This fascinating look at thirteen unusual animals, many of them rare or endangered, introduces the remarkable world of monotypic animals—those without any close relatives.

One-of-a-kind animals can be as familiar as the platypus or as unfamiliar as the purple frog. These fascinating and mysterious species belong to an exclusive club of living things: those with no close living relatives, making them monotypic species. Meet more than a dozen of these creatures (including humans!), learn what makes them unique, and explore the relationships among species on the evolutionary tree. Written by award-winning author Sneed B. Collard III, this fascinating nonfiction picture book is ideal for kids, teachers, and librarians and includes extensive back matter and activities.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

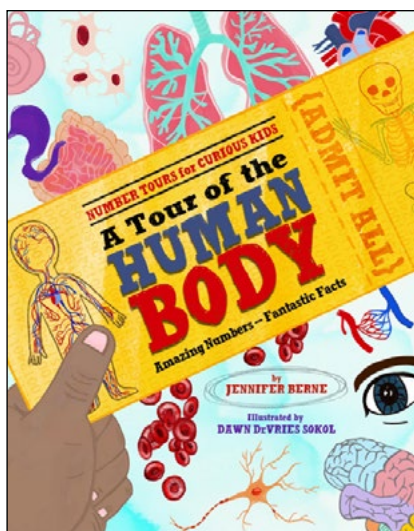
**Sneed B. Collard III** is the author of more than eighty-five books for children and young people. His *Beaks!* title (Charlesbridge, 2002) has sold more than 200,000 copies in paperback, and continues to sell. His work has received the Eureka! Nonfiction Silver Medal, the High Plains Books Award, made the Junior Library Guild Selection list, and received many starred reviews from *Booklist*, *School Library Journal*, and others.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Christopher Silas Neal** is an award-winning author and illustrator of picture books, including the acclaimed *Over and Under* series with author Kate Messner, which was praised for its “stunning retro-style illustrations” (*New York Times*). Neal's author debut *Everyone* was praised by *Publishers Weekly* as “simple, honest, lyrical.” His board books *Animal Colors* and *Animal Shapes* received starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly* and *Kirkus*. Neal is a Mexican/European-American artist who lives with his wife and two boys in Brooklyn, NY.

**ON SALE: June 2024**  
**Ages 5–8**  
**40pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**

# Number Tours for Curious Kids



## A Tour of the Human Body Amazing Numbers— Fantastic Facts

by Jennifer Berne

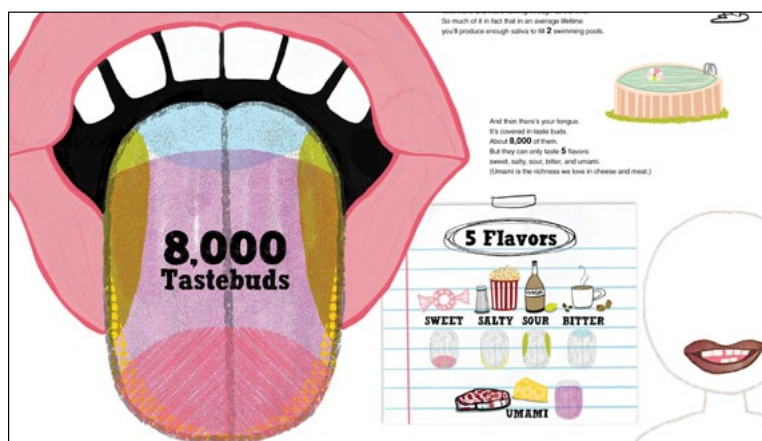
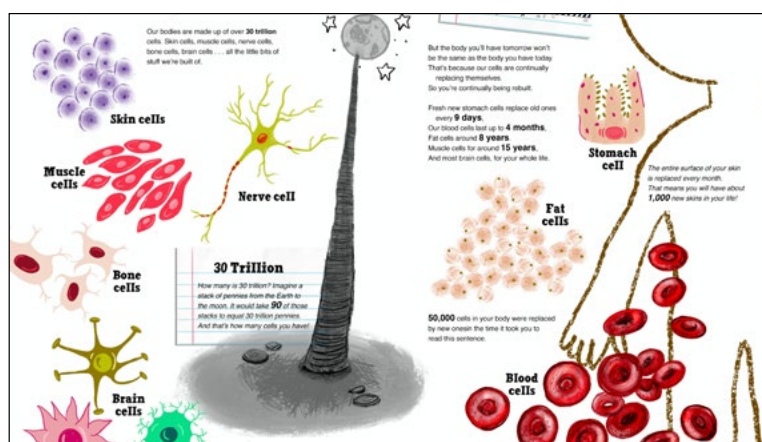
Illustrated by

Dawn DeVries Sokol

Look for more titles in  
the Number Tours for  
Curious Kids series—  
coming in 2025!

Jennifer Berne takes the reader on a tour of the human body to reveal how it works—with some astonishing numbers and fascinating facts along the way.

From our eyes to our toes, do you know what makes the human body tick? Do you know that our hearts beat 100,000 times a day, which equals 36 MILLION times a year? Do you know that new stomach cells replace old ones every 9 days? Do you know that our tongue's 8,000 taste buds can detect only 5 flavors? Through such fascinating facts, numbers big and small, and a strong narrative voice, this book takes young readers on a revealing journey through the wonder of the human body.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Jennifer Berne** is the author of several acclaimed children's books, including *Manfish: The Story of Jacques Cousteau*, *Look Up with Me, On a Beam of Light*, and her most recent, *How the Sea Came to Be*. Her work has made the Kirkus Best Picture Books list, the Junior Library Guild Main Selection list, and received several starred reviews from Horn Book, Publisher's Weekly, School Library Journal and many others.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Dawn DeVries Sokol** is an author, illustrator, professional art journaler, and designer of books. Her book *Doodle Diary* sold more than 150,000 copies. She has written and illustrated 12 nonfiction books for major publishers as well as a trio of board books for children. Dawn teaches her art journaling methods and techniques online and her artwork has been exhibited in books, on websites, and in galleries around the world. She earned a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University's renowned Walter Cronkite School of Journalism.

**ON SALE: May 2024**  
**Ages 5–9**  
**32pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**



# One Cool Duck

A 4-book series

by Mike Petrik



Duck and the gang have built the FAR OUT FORT and now they are playing a mega game of Capture the Flag—in the third installment of this “cool” graphic chapter book series, perfect for fans of Dog Man.

Duck and the gang are joined by Rhino, Turtle, Frog and the rest of the kids from the Cool Caboose in a mega game of capture the flag! If they get tagged by the other team, they are out of the game. The object is to capture the other teams flag! Mike Petrik is at his best as members of both teams try and outsmart each other. With plenty of excitement and the tension and high stakes kids adore, everyone races to the finish. But who wins?

In three short chapters, perfect for readers just gaining confidence, Duck and friends once again show that being cool is never about being mean!

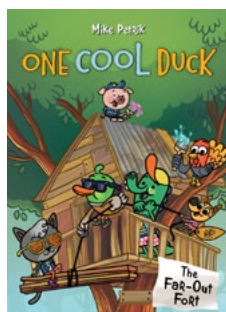
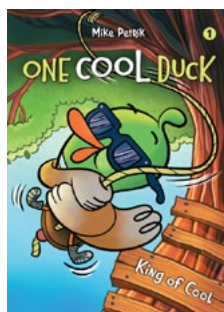
Hippo Park graphic chapter books are ideal for beginner and newly independent readers, with approachable page counts, easy-to-follow paneling, and artwork that supports text comprehension.

## #3 Summer Games

Don't miss One Cool Duck

#1: King of Cool

#2: The Far-Out Fort

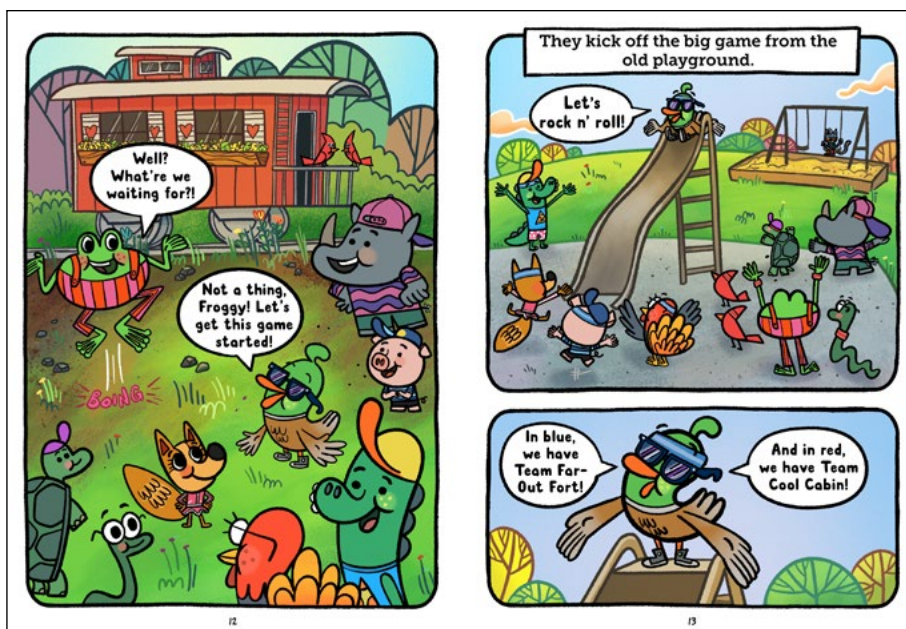


**Coming in Fall 2024!**

**One Cool Duck #4**

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Mike Petrik** grew up in the Chicago suburbs, shredding on his skateboard, hanging out at the arcade, and just being a cool dude. He spent most of his days drawing. Fast forward a few years, and Mike has illustrated seven picture books (one of which he wrote) and created two lift-the-flap board books. Mike lives with his wife and three kids in Oak Lawn, IL. *One Cool Duck* is his first graphic novel series.



**ON SALE: May 2024**

**Ages 6–9**

**64pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**TERRITORY: World, all languages**



A 4-book series

by Catherine Daly

Illustrated by Genevieve Kote



## Birthday Bling

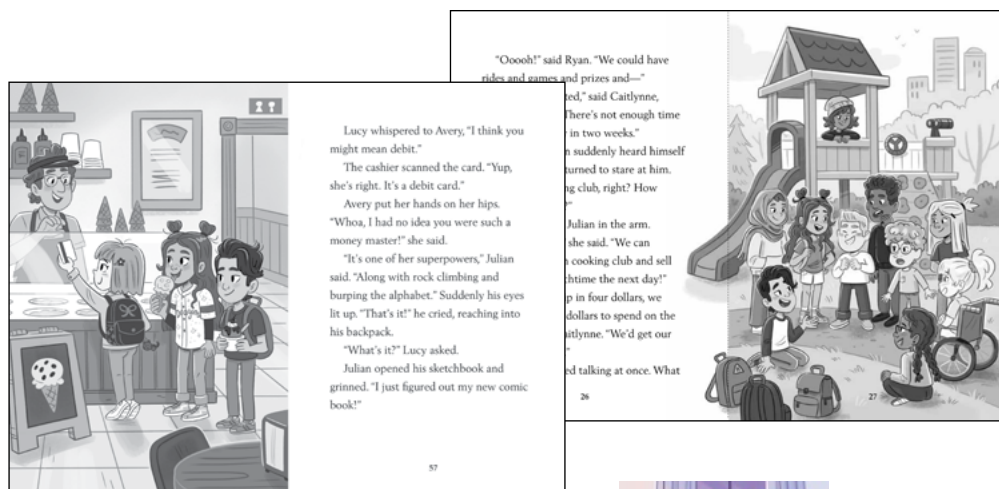


## Batter Splatter

From budgeting to spending, from credit cards to gift cards, this new early chapter book series tackles and explains big financial topics for kids, Dollars to Doughnuts! Look for more titles coming soon!

*Birthday Bling:* When Lucy's aunt gives her a card—the plastic kind—for her birthday, Lucy knows just the blinged-out sweatshirt to spend it on. She plunks the card down at the store, but, *cringe*, it comes up short! Wait, what's the difference between a gift card and a credit card? (Money topic: Spending)

*Batter Splatter:* After a batter disaster, Julian and Lucy's cooking class needs a kitchen cleanup, including a new paint job. Luckily, they have a plan to make things right—they'll simply throw the bake sale of the century! But their sweet dreams dissolve like sugar when faced with the b-word: Budget. What is a budget and how are they ever supposed to stay within it? (Money topic: Making a Budget)



## Coming soon! Books #3 and #4

In book #3, *Cash Stash*, Julian and Lucy discover the upside of savings accounts when Julian's cash-stuffed piggy bank mysteriously goes missing. (Money topic: Saving)



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Catherine Daly** has written many books for young readers, including *The Magical Reality of Nadia* and *The Magical Reality of Nadia: Middle School Mischief*, both with Bassem Youssef, *What Was the Age of Exploration?*, the *Petal Pushers* middle-grade series, and a few books in the *Makers Make It Work* series. She lives in New York City with her family and their feisty Boston terrier, Jack.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Genevieve Kote** is a French Canadian illustrator who loves drawing kids and animals and bringing their adventures to life. She has illustrated the *Agents of H.E.A.R.T.*, *I Heart Band*, and *Animal Rescue Friends* series, as well as *American Girl's According to Aggie*.

**ON SALE: January 2024**  
**Ages 6–9**  
**64pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**



# Heather Whirl, Weather Girl

A 2-book series

by Linda Oatman High

illustrated by Kris Aro McLeod



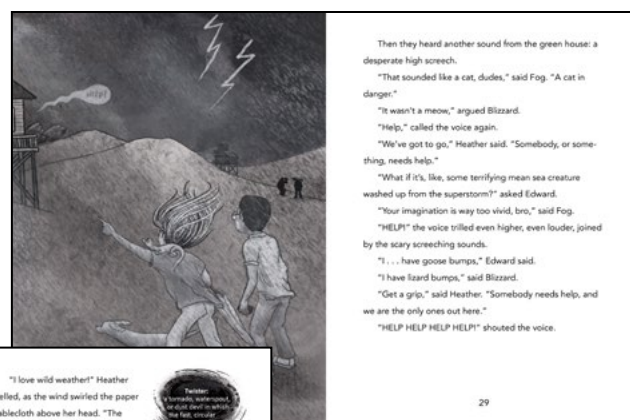
## Heather and the Wildfires



Don't miss  
book #1:  
*Heather and the Stormy Birthday!*

Get whisked away with Heather Whirl, Weather Girl and her magical umbrella as she and her friends experience wildfires and the impact of climate change in this chapter book for readers ages 6–9, the second in a series!

Heather Whirl is fascinated by the weather and concerned about the climate. In this second adventure, Heather's magical umbrella, given to her by her eccentric great-grandmother, lands her and her friends near a raging wildfire! Heather and her friend Edward and animal companions—Fog the dog and a lizard named Blizzard—observe and learn how such fires come about. They also lend a helping hand in building a fire break, and document their adventures. Heather's journal entries, notes from her helpers, definitions, and activities provide additional information for children wanting to learn more about the weather and climate.



From *Heather and the Stormy Birthday*



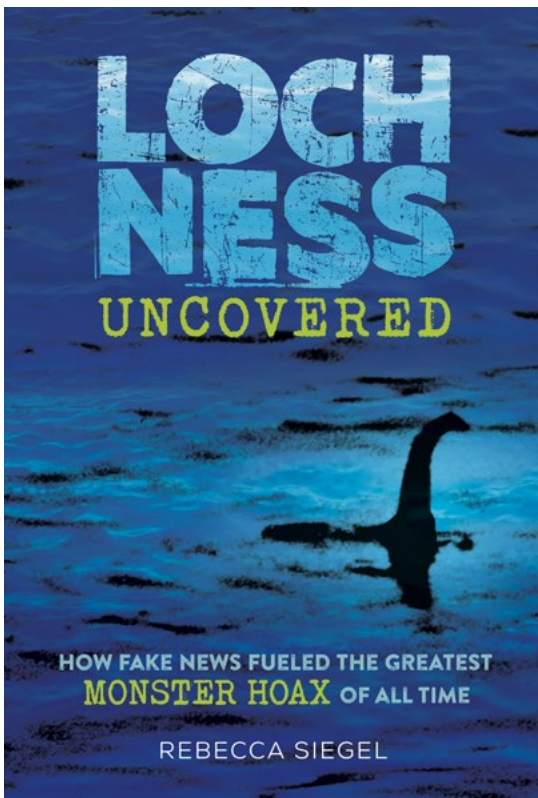
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Linda Oatman High is an experienced and versatile children's book author of more than 25 books for children (and teens), including picture books and middle-grade and YA novels. Her work includes *Hound Heaven*, which was nominated for the Rebecca Caudill Award; *City of Snow: The Great Blizzard of 1888*, which was added to the 2005 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book list; and many others. Linda holds an MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Vermont College, and she teaches both nationally and internationally.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Kris Aro McLeod is an author, illustrator, and elementary school art teacher. She has illustrated several children's books, including *The Peculiar Haunting of Thelma Bee*, *Catch a Kiss*, and *Lizzy and the Last Day of School*. She has illustrated and written poems for *Ladybug*, *Spider*, and *Cricket* magazines. Her work has been reviewed in *School Library Journal*, *Kirkus*, and others.

**ON SALE: March 2024**  
**Ages 6–9**  
**64pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**



## **Loch Ness Uncovered** *How Fake News Fueled the Greatest Monster Hoax of All Time*

by **Rebecca Siegel**

Just in time for the 90th anniversary of the iconic Loch Ness photo comes a meticulously researched account of the world's most famous monster hoax and a cautionary tale on the dangers of misinformation.

In 1934, a man was walking by a lake in the Scottish Highlands when he saw a long-necked creature swimming in the water. He grabbed his camera and snapped a photo. When the photo landed on the front page of the Daily Mail, it shattered the belief that paranormal creatures were pure fiction. But amid the monster-hunting craze, complex conspiracies soon emerged. The Loch Ness Monster became more than a mysterious sea creature—it became a phenomenon that caused people to question their assumptions and dig for the truth.

Meticulously researched through primary sources and in-depth interviews with key figures, *Loch Ness Uncovered* is the fascinating true story of the conspiracy that sparked intrigue worldwide. Complete with archival images, an engaging narrative, and a guide to media literacy, here is a nonfiction book that will transport young readers to the thrilling world of monster mania.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Rebecca Siegel** is the author of several nonfiction books, including *To Fly Among the Stars* and *Mayflower*, which was named a 2021 EUREKA! Nonfiction Children's Honor Book. In 2022, she traveled to Scotland to conduct research for *Loch Ness Uncovered*. She currently lives and works in Chicago, IL.

**ON SALE: March 2024**  
**Ages 10 and up**  
**160pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**





## True Colors

by Abby Cooper

*Turning Red* meets *The Giver* in this novel about a town where everyone agrees to think positively—but one girl, whose emotions manifest as colors, can't hide her true feelings.

In the town of Serenity everyone looks on the bright side, and that's on purpose: to live in this town, people have to agree to talk positively and only focus on the good things in life. For twelve-year-old Mackenzie Werner, who has the rare gift of her emotions showing up as a colorful haze around her body, this town seems like the perfect place; she'll never face the embarrassment of a grumbly grapefruit smog if everyone and everything is set up to be happy. But when a documentary maker comes to town and starts asking questions, Mackenzie, overwhelmed with emotion, can't hold her haze back—and it explodes onto the whole town. Now everyone has their own haze, revealing their real feelings. As Mackenzie learns that emotions go beyond surface level, the whole town must reckon with what it means now that these true colors are on display.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Abby Cooper** is the author of three middle-grade novels: *Friend or Fiction*, *Sticks & Stones*, and *Bubbles*, all of which incorporate a speculative element into a contemporary setting. A former school librarian and educator, Abby lives in Minnesota with her husband and son. Visit [abbycooperauthor.com](http://abbycooperauthor.com).

**ON SALE:** May 2024  
**Ages** 10 and up  
**192pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY:** World,  
 all languages

# New Spring 2024 Calkins Creek

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## **Bird Girl**

***Gene Stratton-Porter  
Shares Her Love of  
Nature with the World***

by Jill Esbaum

Illustrated by Rebecca Gibbon

This lively STEAM picture book is about the life of Gene Stratton-Porter, a pioneering wildlife photographer and popular children's book author from the late 19th and early 20th century, who showed the world the beauty of nature, especially birds, and why it was worth preserving.



Calkins Creek (Ages 7–10) World

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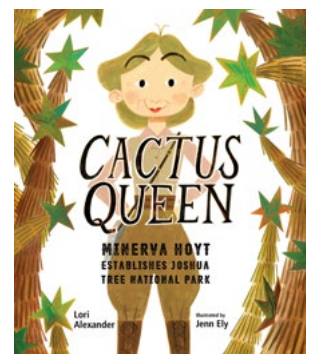
## **Cactus Queen**

***Minerva Hoyt Establishes  
Joshua Tree National  
Park***

by Lori Alexander

Illustrated by Jenn Ely

Meet Minerva Hamilton Hoyt, an artist, activist, and environmentalist, whose determination saved the desert and helped to create a national park, in this STEAM picture book.



Calkins Creek (Ages 7–10) World

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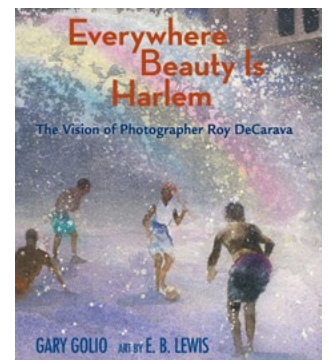
## **Everywhere Beauty Is Harlem**

***The Vision of  
Photographer  
Roy DeCarava***

by Gary Golio

Illustrated by E. B. Lewis

A child of the Harlem Renaissance and an artistic collaborator of Langston Hughes, Roy DeCarava is an unsung hero of Black history. Convinced that the lives of ordinary Black people deserved to be immortalized and documented in photos, Roy celebrated Black people through his art, a process that the incomparable author Gary Golio and illustrator E. B. Lewis capture in this beautiful picture book.



Calkins Creek (Ages 7–10) World

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## **The Fabulous Fannie Farmer**

***Kitchen Scientist and  
America's Cook***

by Emma Bland Smith

Illustrated by Susan Reagan

Famous cooking teacher Fannie Farmer discovers that precise measurements are a recipe for cooking success in this STEAM picture book that includes two of her classic recipes.



Calkins Creek (Ages 7–10) World



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## **One of a Kind** *The Life of Sydney Taylor*

by Richard Michelson

Illustrated by Sarah Green

For fans of All-of-a-Kind Family, here is the true story of how Sarah Brenner, a poor girl from New York City, became Sydney Taylor: dancer, actress, and successful children's book author.

Calkins Creek (Ages 7–10) World



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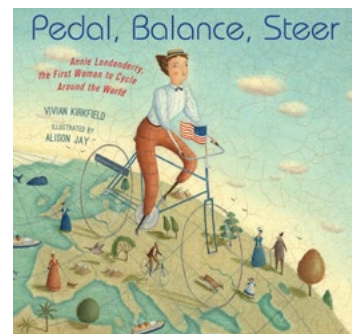
## **Pedal, Balance, Steer** *Annie Londonderry, the First Woman to Cycle Around the World*

by Vivian Kirkfield

Illustrated by Alison Jay

Annie Londonderry proves women can do anything they set their minds to—even cycle around the world—in this nonfiction picture book for cycling enthusiasts, budding travelers, and anyone who dreams of reaching a difficult goal.

Calkins Creek (Ages 7–10) World



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## **Skybound** *Starring Mary Myers as Carlotta, Daredevil Aeronaut and Scientist*

by Sue Ganz-Schmitt

Illustrated by Iacopo Bruno

In this STEAM picture book, take to the skies with Mary Myers, aka “Carlotta,” an aeronaut and inventor whose careful scientific work improved hot air balloons and our understanding of flight, weather patterns, and the atmosphere.

Calkins Creek (Ages 7–10) World



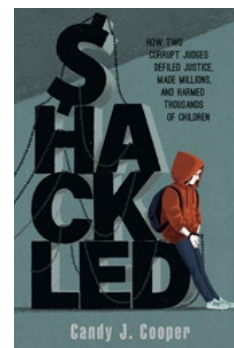
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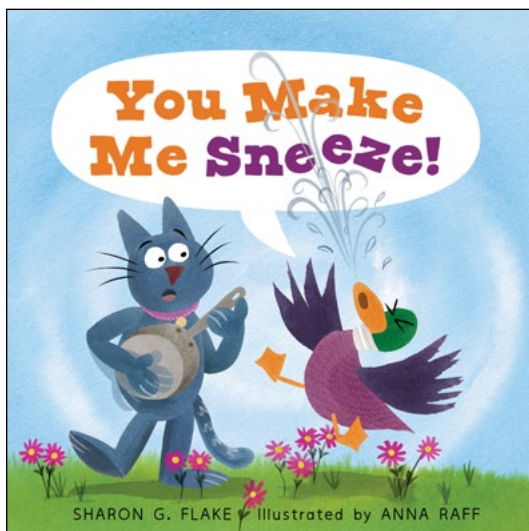
## **Shackled** *How Two Corrupt Judges Defiled Justice, Made Millions, and Harmed Thousands of Children*

by Candy J. Cooper

Here is the explosive story of the Kids for Cash scandal, a judicial justice miscarriage that sent more than 2,500 children and teens to a for-profit detention center while two judges lined their pockets with cash, as told by Candy J. Cooper, an award-winning journalist and Pulitzer Prize finalist.

Calkins Creek (Ages 12 and up) World





## You Make Me Sneeze!

by Sharon G. Flake

Illustrated by Anna Raff

Perfect for fans of Mo Willems and Jon Klassen, award-winning author Sharon G. Flake's story about a very serious cat and a very silly duck will inspire giggles with every reading.

Best friends Duck and Cat have a problem—Cat makes Duck sneeze! “I think—*achoo!*—I’m allergic to you,” Duck declares. Hilarity ensues as Cat keeps trying to solve the problem—but Duck keeps sneezing! Is Duck really allergic to Cat or is something else going on?

Written completely in dialogue, this text is fun to read aloud and easy enough for newly independent readers to enjoy on their own. Humorous illustrations highlight the characters’ personalities, emphasizing Duck’s quirky humor and Cat’s earnestness. This dynamic duo will charm readers as the sly friendship tale keeps them laughing.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

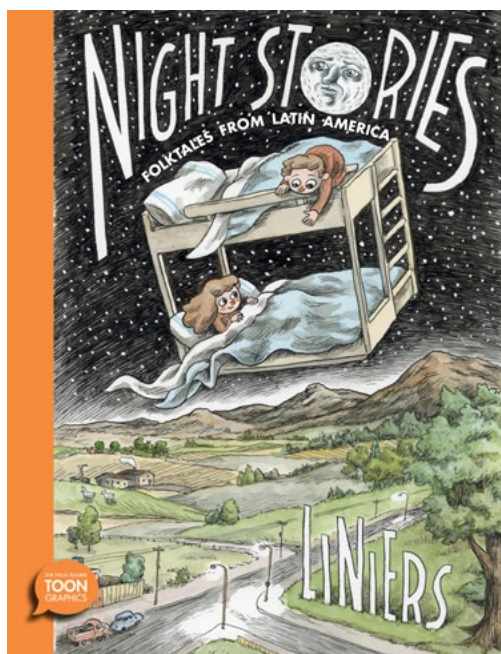
**Sharon G. Flake** won the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Award for her bestselling first novel, *The Skin I'm In*, and is a two-time Coretta Scott King Author Honor winner. Her books have sold a combined total of more than a million copies. *You Are Not a Cat!* was her first picture book.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Anna Raff** is an award-winning illustrator of several books for children, including *World Rat Day*, *If I Were a Kangaroo*, and *The Day the Universe Exploded My Head*—a Kirkus Best Book of the Year and New York Public Library Best Book—as well as a series of science picture books with author David A. Adler. Her illustrations have also appeared in many newspapers and magazines, including the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. Before her career as an illustrator, Anna was a designer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and several children's book publishers. Visit [annaraff.com](http://annaraff.com).

**ON SALE: February 2024**  
**Ages 3–7**  
**48pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World English**





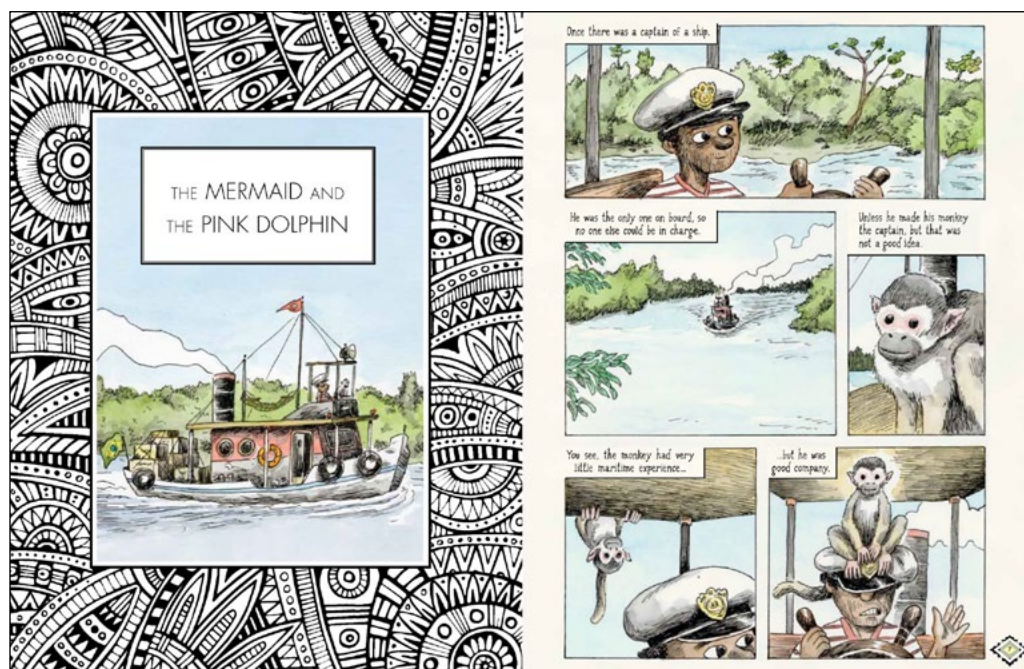
Cover Not Final

## Night Stories: Folktales from Latin America

by Liniers

Classic Latin American folktales get an update in this new collection by celebrated author Liniers!

Eisner Award-winner Liniers applies his exuberant cartooning skills and irrepressible sense of humor to three folktales he grew up with. From the Amazon basin comes the story of La Yuna, a mermaid (or is she a pink dolphin?) who lures young men to her underground domain. From Chile and Uruguay comes the legend of La Lechuza, an enormous Owl with the face of a woman, who terrorizes those who venture out after dark. Finally, on the Argentine pampas, we witness two gauchos' encounter with La Luz Mala, a spooky, evanescent light that terrorizes travelers. Liniers's funny and witty storytelling, with surprise revelations and lighthearted twists, combined with well-documented backmatter and a bibliography, is sure to make these timeless tales come alive for all young readers.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Liniers's US debut, *The Big Wet Balloon*, was selected as one of Parents Magazine's Top Ten Best Childrens' Books. Liniers is from Buenos Aires, Argentina, but he now lives in Vermont with his wife and three young daughters.

**ON SALE: Spring 2024**  
**Ages 7-9**  
**44pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World English**

# Fall 2024 Sneak Preview

Covers not final

## Robin's Worlds

by Rainie Oet

Illustrated by Mathias Ball

This classic in the making is a moving and imaginative picture book debut about a nonbinary child's birthday adventure.

Astra Young Readers (Ages 4–8) World



## The Strangest Fish

by Katherine Arden

Illustrated by Zahra Marwan

From bestselling author Katherine Arden and award-winning illustrator Zahra Marwan comes the magical story of a girl who wins a fish at the fair and then learns her new pet is not quite what she expected.

Astra Young Readers (Ages 4–8) World



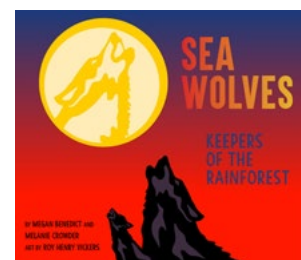
## Sea Wolves Keepers of the Rainforest

by Megan Benedict

Illustrated by Melanie Crowder

Written by two poets and illustrated by a well-known First Nations artist, this lyrical, stunningly illustrated book explores the sea wolf—an apex marine mammal evolved from the gray wolf—as it navigates the coastline, eats seafood, and lives its extraordinary, unusual life.

Astra Young Readers (Ages 4–8) World



Interior image;  
cover art to come

## The Most Perfect Persimmon

by Hannah Chung

A young girl watches persimmons ripen as she waits for her grandmother's visit in this charming debut about family and patience.

Astra Young Readers (Ages 4–8) World





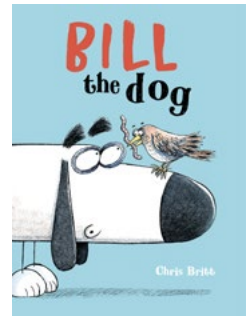
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## Bill the Dog

by Chris Britt

When Bill is told he is bad, he wonders—maybe he isn't good at being a dog. He journeys off to meet other animals, to see if he can be like one of them. Bill slowly learns that just because he misbehaved doesn't mean he isn't loved just as he is.

Hippo Park (Ages 4–8) World



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## The Springtime Storks

by Carol Munro

Illustrated by Chelsea O'Byrne

Based on the true story of two storks whose dedication to each other captured the world's attention, this lyrical story is a celebration of love and a call to protect the routes of all migratory birds.

Minerva (Ages 4–8) World



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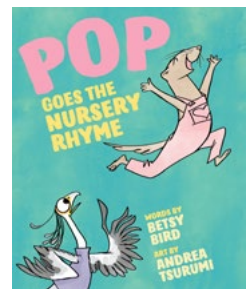
## Pop Goes the Nursery Rhyme

by Betsy Bird

Illustrated by Andrea Tsurumi

In this laugh-out-loud spin on a classic nursery rhyme collection by iconic duo Betsy Bird and Andrea Tsurumi, a feisty weasel continuously interrupts the narrator's carefully prepared recitation—wreaking havoc on the rhymes we know all too well. . . .

Minerva (Ages 4–8) World



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## One More Story, Tata!

by Julie Salamon

Illustrated by Jill Weber

This is the heartwarming story of four generations of Jewish women that come together on Shabbat, and the magical bond little Ruby and her great-grandma Tata share through storytelling.

Minerva (Ages 4–8) World



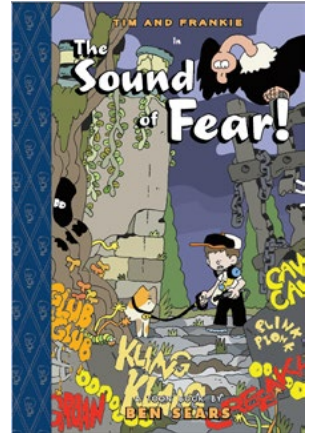
## Tim and Frankie in the Sound of Fear

### TOON Level 2

by Ben Sears

Tim's sister is feeling down, but he's got a plan to cheer her up. Unfortunately, the plan involves an abandoned house that may or may not be haunted. Luckily, Tim's best friend Frankie—who happens to be a cat—never met a challenge she couldn't handle. Even when ghosts are in the mix!

TOON Books (Ages 5–7) World



## Call Me Roberto!

### Roberto Clemente Goes to Bat for Latinos

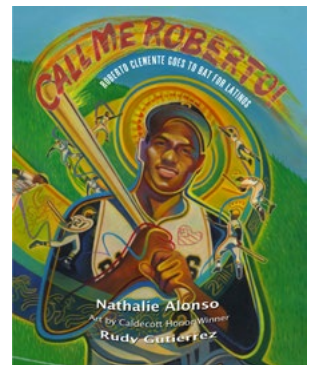
by Nathalie Alonso

Illustrated by Rudy Gutierrez

Spanish translation available

The often overlooked yet inspirational story of professional baseball player Roberto Clemente—not Bob, not Robert—who endured years of racism and discrimination to become one of the greatest baseball players of all time.

Calkins Creek (Ages 7–10) World



## Introducing Sandwina

### The Strongest Woman in the World!

by Vicki Conrad

Illustrated by Jeremy Holmes

No one believed a woman could be stronger than a man, that is until Katie Brumbach—AKA Sandwina—displayed her show-stopping feats as a circus strongwoman as well as promoting a positive body image.

Calkins Creek (Ages 7–10) World



## Beware the Dragon and the Nozzlewock

### A Book of Surprising Characters and Hilarious Poems

by Vikram Madan

Perfect for fans of Jack Prelutsky and Shel Silverstein, award-winning author Vikram Madan's new poetry collection features delicious vocabulary, hilarious poems, and a full-color graphic novel format!

Wordsong (Ages 8–12) World



# HIGHLIGHTS 2023



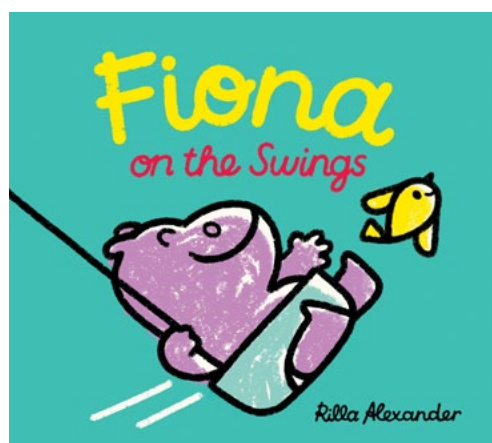
Artwork from *The Book from Far Away*, illustrated by Julie Benbassat



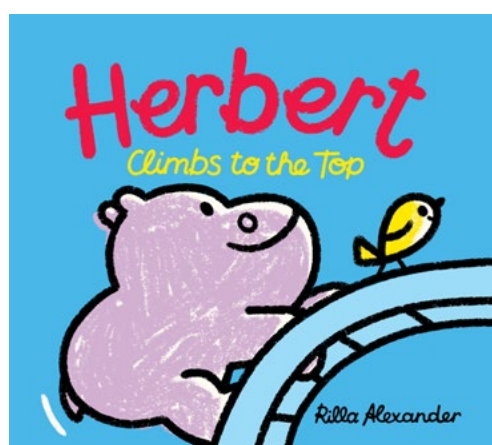
# Hippo Park Pals

A 4-book series

by Rilla Alexander



## Fiona on the Swings



## Herbert Climbs to the Top

Don't miss *Herbert on the Slide* and *Fiona in the Sandbox*!

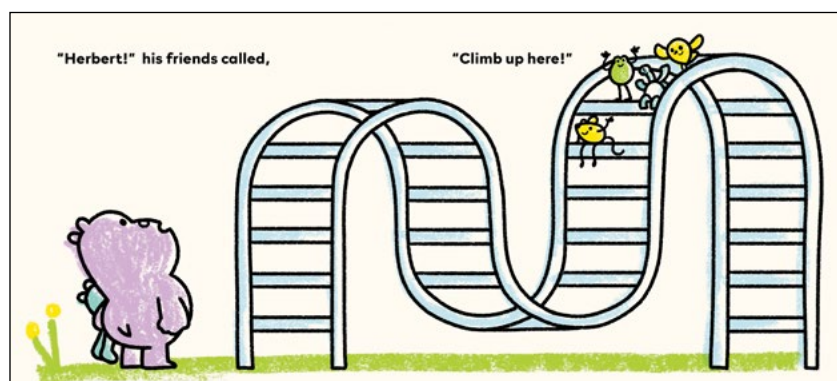
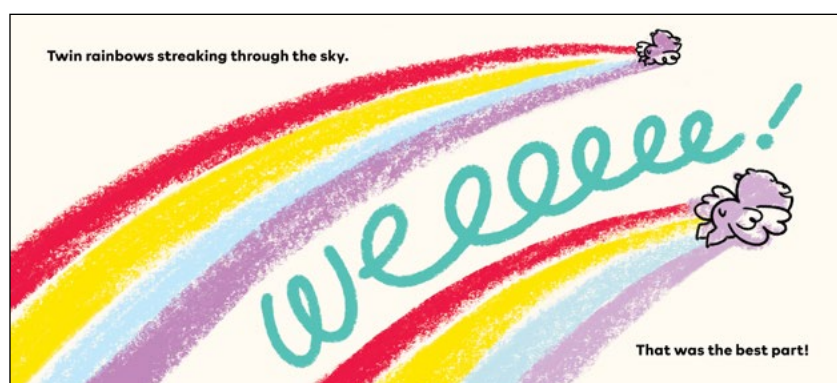


Rilla Alexander's hippo siblings, Fiona and Herbert, are adorable and kind! Her bold, bright colors and the social emotional messages in these precious books meet kids exactly where they are.

**TWO NEW TITLES FOR 2023!** In the third miniature picture book in the Hippo Park Pals series—perfect for little hands—Fiona needs help getting onto her swing, and brother Herbert helps out, like big brothers do.

In the fourth book, Herbert climbs to the top of the jungle gym for the first time. Of course, he has to look where he places his feet and balance each step of the way. Step! Pull! Step! Pull! Try not to wobble!

“Little ones will have no trouble connecting with the emotionally satisfying outcome of this seamlessly simple storyline with its underlying tones of friendship and sibling companionship.”—Kirkus Reviews for *Fiona in the Sandbox*



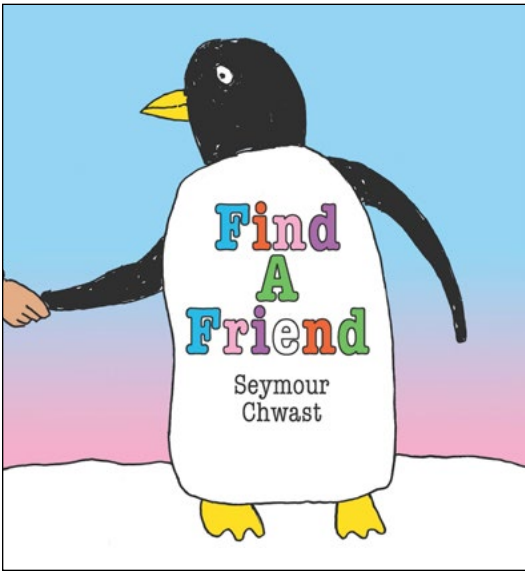
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rilla Alexander grew up in the country, in Australia, with her little sisters, Fiona and Emily. They had a sandbox and swings in the backyard, and a playhouse called Sunshine Cottage, which was made out of a rainwater tank. Nowadays, Rilla is an illustrator, author, and designer and lives in Los Angeles with her husband, Steve, and their puppy, Spot. She has written many picture books and board books, including *The New Rooster* and *Touchwords*.

**ON SALE: Sept. 26, 2023**  
**Ages 2–5**  
**32pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World, all languages**

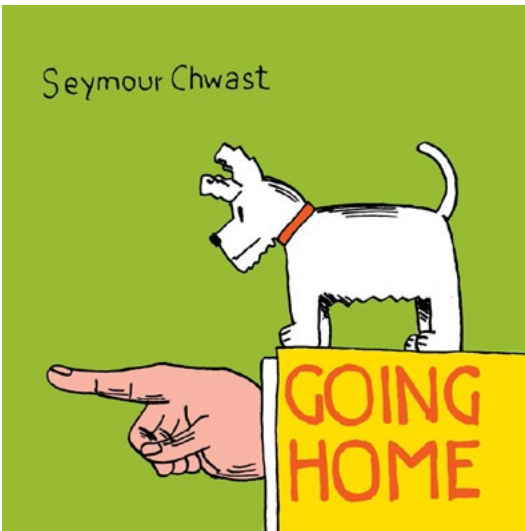
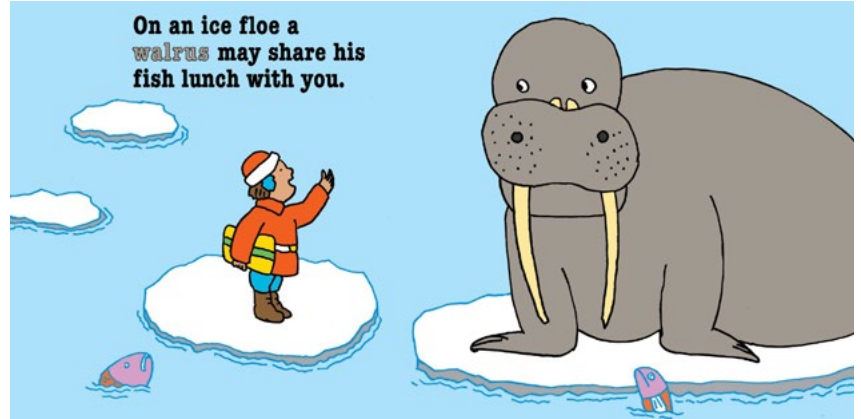


by Seymour Chwast



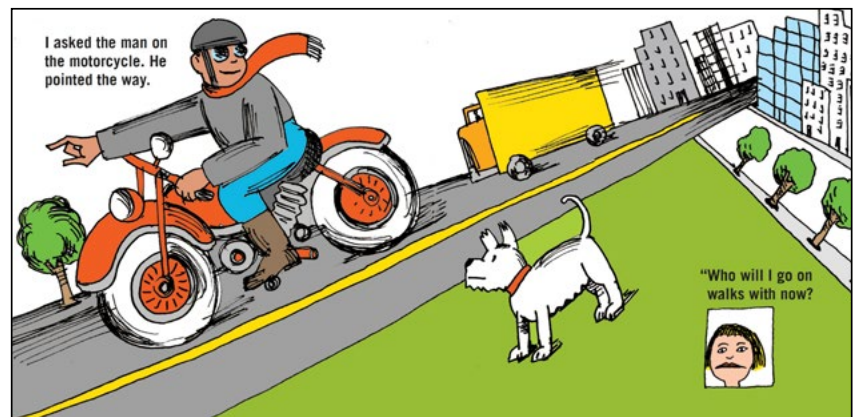
## Find a Friend

Making friends has never been so adventurous as in this hilarious tall tale from award-winning design legend Seymour Chwast!

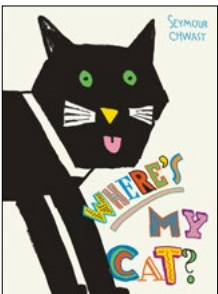


## Going Home

Getting lost is a matter of perspective in this clever picture book about a dog making his way home—with help from new friends—after a gust of wind blows him halfway across the world!



More from Seymour Chwast



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

A master of historical styles and movements, graphic designer **Seymour Chwast** is famous for his diverse body of graphic design work, illustration, and lasting influence on American visual culture. From the author of more than 30 children's books, co-founder of the internationally recognized Push Pin Studios, winner of the AIGA MEDAL, member of the Art Directors Hall of Fame, Chwast's work can be found on countless posters, album and book covers, and editorial illustrations in the *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *Forbes*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and more.

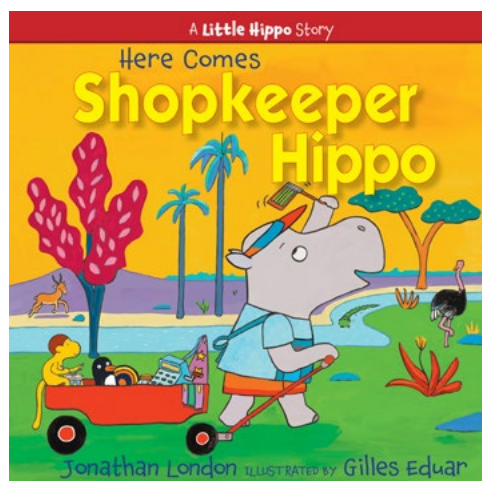
**ON SALE:** July 11, 2023  
**Ages** 4–6  
**32pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** German (minedition AG)  
**TERRITORY:** World, all languages

# Little Hippo

A 4-book series

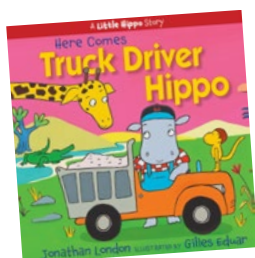
by Jonathan London

illustrated by Gilles Eduar



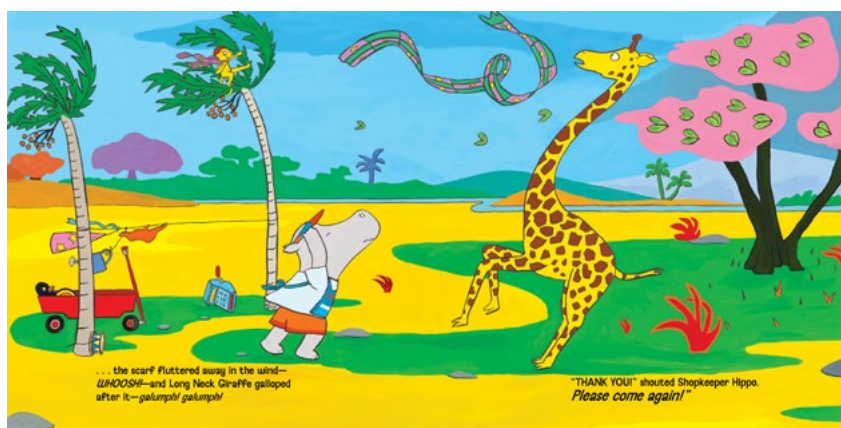
## Here Comes Shopkeeper Hippo

Don't miss *Here Comes Doctor Hippo*,  
*Here Comes Firefighter Hippo*, and  
*Here Comes Truck Driver Hippo*!



*New York Times* best-selling author Jonathan London explores how even the smallest Hippo can be a big help when he teams up with his friends in this imaginative picture book series that will inspire young readers as they play their own games of make-believe.

Little Hippo loves to play pretend, and today he's going to be a shopkeeper! Little Hippo has a goal—he is determined to buy his mama a special gift. With goodies filling his shop, Shopkeeper Hippo is excited to see his many friends stopping by for a treat. Filled with silly animal antics and culminating in the beautiful bond between mother and child, this heartwarming story shows all readers the joy in being kind and the impact of being brave.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Jonathan London** is the creator of more than 20 books about the lovable and enduringly popular character Froggy. Born a "Navy brat" in Brooklyn, NY, London was raised on naval stations throughout the US and Puerto Rico.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Gilles Eduar** is a musician and self-taught artist who has lived in many places around the world, including his native Brazil. He is the illustrator of the Little Hippo series.

**ON SALE: Dec. 5, 2023**

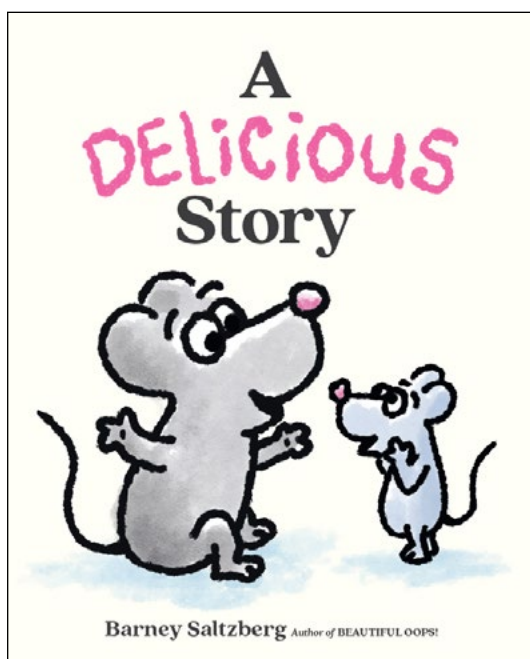
**Ages 3–6**

**32pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**TERRITORY: World, all languages**





## A Delicious Story

by Barney Saltzberg

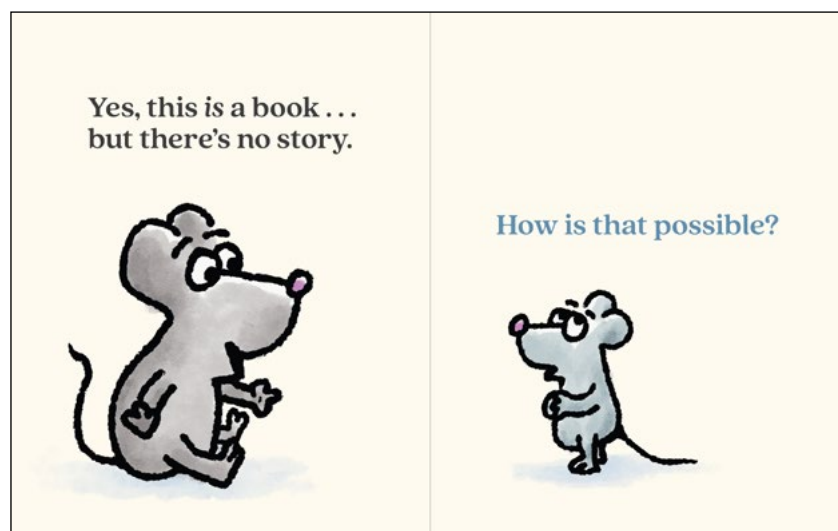
"Children will giggle; many will be inspired to craft their own tales.... Rib-tickling for many beginning readers and writers."

—Kirkus Reviews

"You ate the story?" says one mouse to the other in this thoughtful, funny, and heartfelt read-aloud with pitch-perfect repartee and Barney Saltzberg's signature take on the perils and pleasures of creativity.

Two mice—one big and one small—have a terrible problem in this satisfying comedic journey that parents and children will want to take together again and again. Little Mouse is looking for a story—they're in a book after all!—and Big Mouse has to admit the truth. The story is gone. And (gasp!) he ate it. That is not okay with Little Mouse, who expects his story and will settle for nothing less. What follows is an improvisational dialogue that showcases both the patience and discipline required of true creativity and the dazzling on-the-spot storytelling that can happen when you get in the flow. Parents, teachers, and kids alike will cheer for these heroic mice as they work out the kinks in their friendship and make the reader realize that they've been delivering a story all along.

"This book IS delicious. Pun WAY intended. Imaginative and connecting." —Jamie Lee Curtis, bestselling author



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Barney Saltzberg** is the author of more than 30 books for children, including Beautiful Oops!, My Book of Beautiful Oops!, Good Egg, and the best-selling Touch and Feel Kisses series. Additionally, he's recorded four albums of songs for children. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife, two dogs, and a pond full of fish. His books have won numerous awards, including NAPPA Gold Awards, and received Publishers Weekly and Kirkus Reviews starred reviews. Most recently, Melinda Gates chose Beautiful Oops! as one of the top three books every child should read.

**ON SALE:** June 6, 2023  
**Ages** 3–6  
**80pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY:** World,  
 all languages

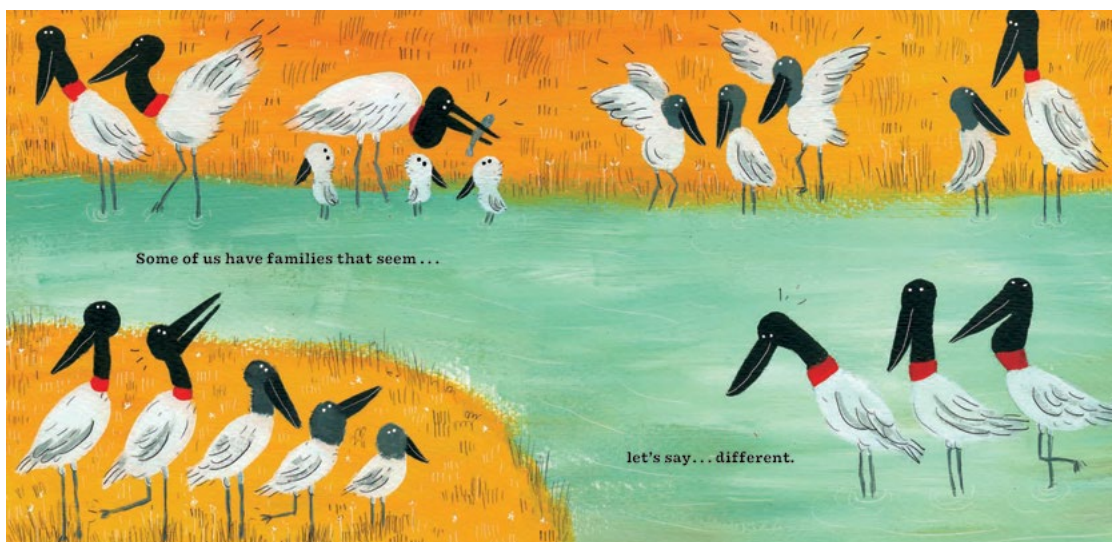


## Some Do, Some Don't

by Dipacho

“(A) simple, straightforward, and soothing text about individuality. Dipacho has reassuringly encapsulated just about every experience a young reader may have. Soft pastel textures in a mostly primary palette provide a charming backdrop to project onto, with expressive jabirus of various sizes and dispositions.”

—Kirkus Reviews



How do families live together, and why are they sometimes apart? This profound and moving book will inspire reflection and conversation about what unites us and what makes us distinct individuals.

Colombian creator Dipacho explores the many ways we live with other people—or, at times, apart from them—with striking illustrations of the jabiru, the largest member of the stork family of birds. In spare, poetic text and stunning watercolors, Dipacho honors family togetherness as well as families whose members choose to live apart, or are separated by circumstances. Moving spreads pay tribute to family members who have died, and those just born. This ingeniously conceived book gives equal weight to the conventional and the unconventional arrangements in which we live, sparking conversations about what it means to be a family. The book ends with informational back matter about the fascinating jabiru stork, grounding it in the world of facts.

**2023 WINNING ILLUSTRATOR of the Bologna Children's Book Fair**

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Dipacho**, the pseudonym of Diego Francisco Sanchez Rodriguez, is the creator of the picture book *Antonia: A Journey to a New Home*. He is an award-winning Colombian author, illustrator, graphic designer, and musician whose picture books have been published in Colombia and other South American countries as well as France and Italy. *Some Do, Some Don't* was selected as a finalist for the 2021 Bologna Illustrator's Exhibition.

**ON SALE: Jan. 31, 2023**  
**Ages 3–6**  
**48pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World, all**  
**languages—excluding**  
**Spanish and Portuguese**





## Papá's Magical Water-Jug Clock

by **Jesús Trejo**

illustrated by **Eliza Kinkz**

Also available to license  
in Spanish: *El Barrilito Mágico de Papá*

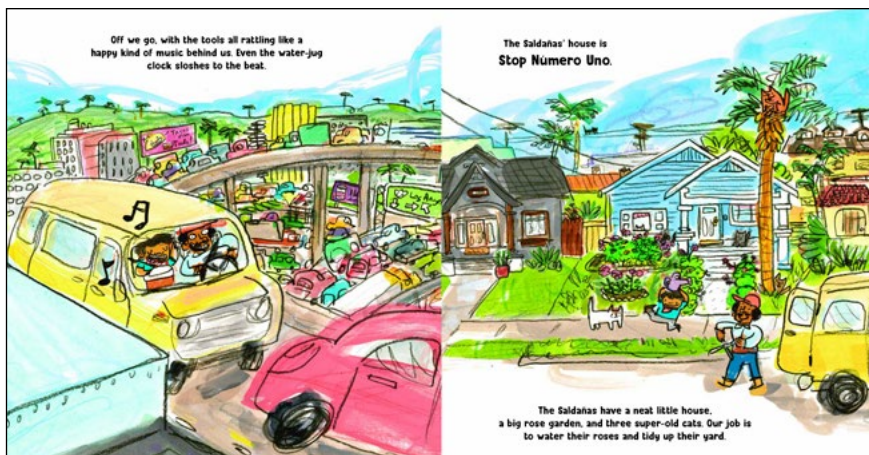
**Coming in Fall 2024!**

**Mamá's Magnificent  
Dancing Plantitas**



Is this jug really magical? In Mexican American comedian Jesús Trejo's debut picture book, little Jesús makes a big, funny mistake as he works alongside his landscaper papá, but father and son find a heartwarming solution.

Little Jesús is excited to spend a Saturday with his landscaper Papá at the “family business.” He loves Papá's cool truck and all the tools he gets to use. Papá even puts him in charge of the magical water jug, which is also a clock! When it's empty, Papá explains, the workday will be done. It's a big job, and Jesús wants to do it right. But he just can't help giving water to an array of thirsty animals—a dog in a sweater, some very old cats, and a flock of peacocks. Before he knows it, the magical water jug is empty—but the workday's not over yet! Will Jesús be fired?! Or is the jug not really magical after all? This mischievous tale of a very young comedian's life lesson will warm hearts and have class clowns, practical jokers, and all high-spirited kids nodding in sympathy.



Jesús finds himself on another high-spirited adventure: this time involving his Mama, some houseplants, and mischievous jokes and antics that will have readers laughing out loud!

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Jesús Trejo** is a comedian, the creator of the Showtime special *Stay at Home Son*, and an actor on the Netflix series *Mr. Iglesias* and the TV Land series *Teachers*. Jesús is also the host of the web series *Tacos Con Todo*, in which he navigates the L.A. taco scene with celebrity guests. Born and raised in Long Beach, California, where he still lives, Jesús appears regularly at international comedy festivals and stand-up venues.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Eliza Kinkz** is a Tejana illustrator whose debut picture book was *Goldie's Guide to Grandchilding*, written by Clint McElroy. Eliza has worked on TV shows, music videos, and most happily on her own award-winning animated films. Eliza lives in Austin, Texas.

**ON SALE: June 6, 2023**  
**Ages 3–6**  
**48pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**





## Luna Ranchera

by **Rodrigo Morlesin**

illustrated by

**Mariana Ruiz Johnson**

**“A strikingly original story of overcoming the odds. . . . This rags-to-riches story of a mother-and-daughter pair making it big will pull at readers’ heartstrings. . . . The writing has an appealingly folksy, tall-tale feeling. Reminiscent of Raul the Third’s artwork.”**

**—Kirkus Reviews**

**Welcome to the show! ¡Bienvenidos! This rags-to-riches tale of a doggy mother-daughter singing act in the Nuevo Wild West will enchant dog lovers, music lovers, and anyone looking for new Latinx voices.**

This spellbinding original story opens in a cantina crowded with desert animals, cowboys, and cowgirls all excited to see the glamorous Luna Ranchera mother-daughter singing duo. Long ago, Luna was down on her luck, starving and struggling to feed her pups, reduced to thieving from nearby ranchers. One day, escaping another heist, Luna has to hide in the worst possible place: on top of a beehive! She howls in pain so loudly, it carries all across the desert. It turns out Luna’s musical wails are something special, captivating creatures far and wide. Her most rebellious pup, Ranchera, joins her, and soon the two become the famous howling singing act with the flea-bitten souls, Luna Ranchera! Immersive and unforgettable, with knockout, whimsical art, the tale ends with the lyrics to Luna Ranchera’s most famous song. Perfect for fans of *Coco* and *Soul*.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Rodrigo Morlesin** is a book designer, author, translator, and children’s literature influencer. Rodrigo lives with his wife, his cat Lulo, and his dog, Elvis, in Mexico City. *Luna Ranchera* is his first picture book.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Mariana Ruiz Johnson** is the author and artist of many books for children including *While You Are Sleeping*; *Run, Little Chaski!*; *An Inka Trail Adventure*; *Shhh*; *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes*; and *The Last Hazelnut*. She lives in Buenos Aires, Argentina, with her husband, their two kids, and Cuca, an old black cat.

**ON SALE: June 20, 2023**

**Ages 3–6**

**56pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**TERRITORY: World, all languages—excluding Spanish and Portuguese**





## Meowl-o-ween

by Diane Muldrow

illustrated by Tiffany Chen

“From the cover image of a rooftop-leaping kitty’s shadowy silhouette, it’s clear that Halloween has gone to the cats in this celebration of trick-or-treat and felinekind. Muldrow builds a bit of gentle suspense with rhyming text... Chen gets the clowder’s postures and behaviors just right, creating cat-tastically crowded, digitally rendered interspecies scenes of friends having a joyful, treat-filled time. Fun for cat lovers and Halloween fans alike.”

—*Publishers Weekly*



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Maríel Jungkunz** is a former journalist and a graduate of the Las Hermanas mentorship program for unpublished Latinx kidlit writers at Las Musas Books. Originally from Puerto Rico, she currently resides in Ohio, where she works as an editor for dictionary.com.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Monica Rodriguez** has a BFA in Fine Art from Savannah College of Art and Design and works primarily with picture book illustration and character design.

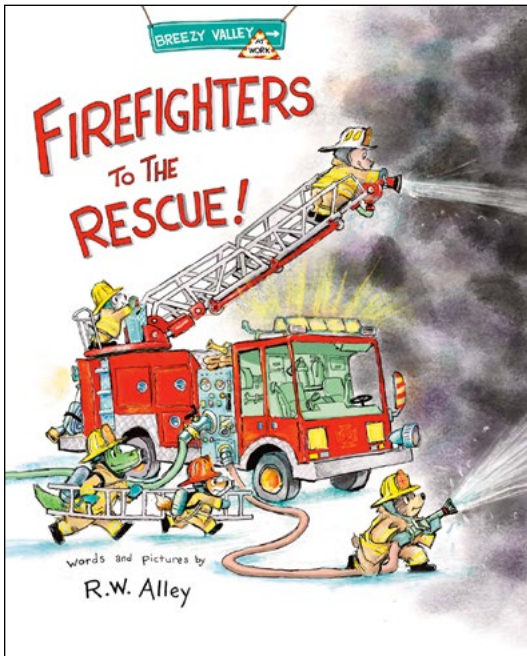
**ON SALE: Sept. 5, 2023**

**Ages 3–7**

**40pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**TERRITORY: World,  
all languages**



## Firefighters to the Rescue!

by R.W. Alley

**Coming in Fall 2024!**

***Hospital Heroes Save the Day!***



This picture book features lively animals as doctors, nurses, and emergency workers who come to the rescue when Lemur is brought to the hospital for an injured tail!

*Cover not final*

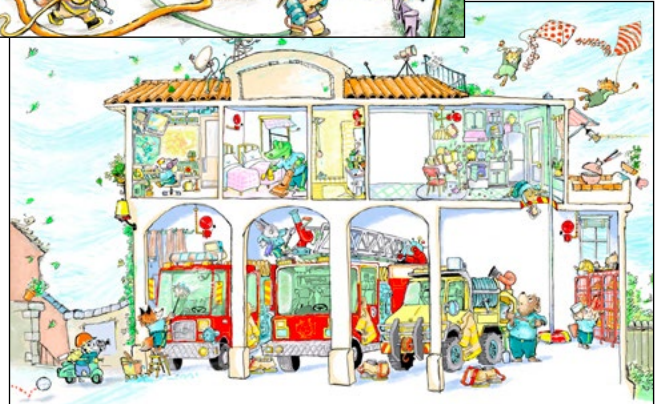
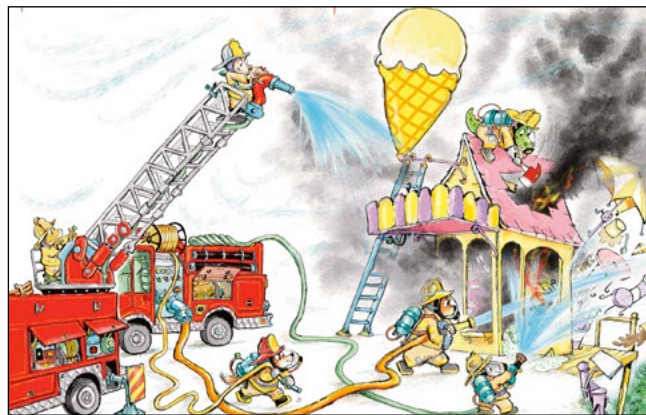
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alley is the author and illustrator of many children's books. For more than 20 years, he has been the illustrator of the revived Paddington Bear series. He received the Rhode Island Mock Caldecott Award for *There's a Wolf at The Door*, and a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book for *Pearl and Wagner: One Funny Day*. His books have been selected by Junior Library Guild and included in lists such as ALA Notable Books for Children, Bank Street Best Book of the Year, Notable Children's Books in the Language Arts, among others.

Fans of Richard Scarry and Busytown will love Breezy Valley at Work, a funny and informative picture book series about community helpers and their jobs. Each book features lively animal characters, a rollicking story, and detail-packed illustrations.

Firefighters to the rescue! The officers of Breezy Valley answer the call to protect their beloved town. Ladders, axes, and water hoses take center stage as the firefighters rescue the tabby cat twins, put out blazes, and save not only lives—but also the town ice cream parlor! Lively action, equipment details, cross-section pictures and more will keep young firefighter fans engaged in this delightful story.

"This is great fun and works so well. Full of life, humor and real information. The perfect combination. I had a smile on my face from the very beginning. It only disappeared a couple of times. . . when I was laughing."—Caldecott Medalist David Macaulay, author of *The Way Things Work*, *Cathedral*, *Pyramid*, *Castle*, and *Mosque*



**ON SALE: Oct. 3, 2023**

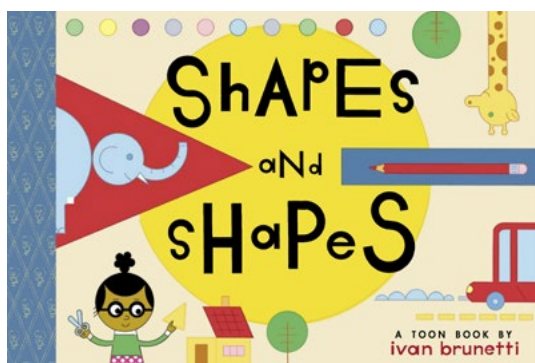
**Ages 4–6**

**32pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Norway (Bonnier Norsk Forlag, in a pre-empt); Netherlands (Ploegsma); Lithuania (AlmaLittera); Greece (Key Books); Russia (Abrakazyabra); China (Post Wave (Ginkgo), at auction)

**TERRITORY:** World, all languages





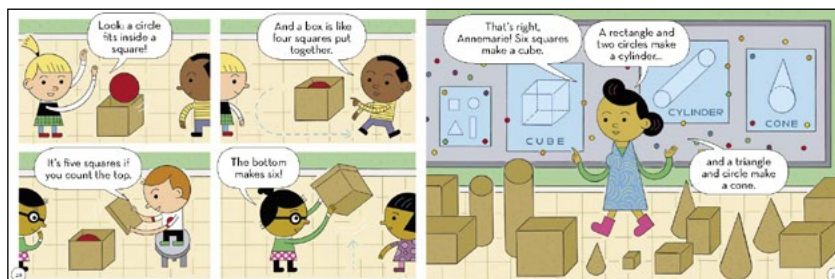
## Who knew shapes could be so much fun?

Now a respected art professor and cartoonist, IVAN BRUNETTI still remembers the fun he had playing with shapes as a kid. In the hands of the author/artist of Wordplay, 3x4, and Comics: Easy as ABC, shapes explode, divide, and multiply, offering young readers a basic yet exciting art and math lesson. Kids will laugh as they learn—and it will also change the way they see the world.

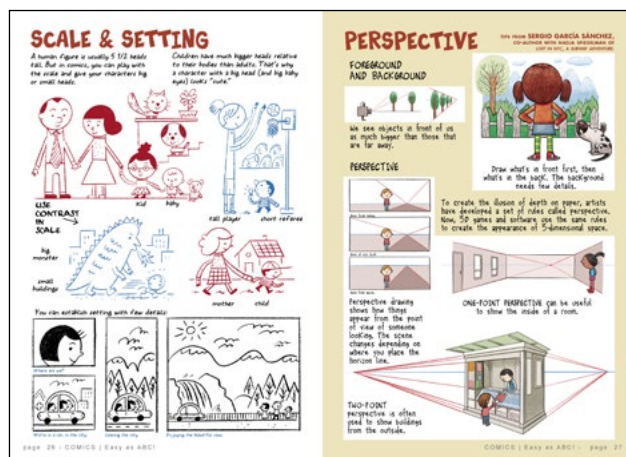
## Shapes and Shapes

by Ivan Brunetti

Don't miss more from Ivan Brunetti!  
**Comics: Easy as ABC The Essential Guide to Comics for Kids**



**LIFETIME SALES: 25,000**  
**Ages 3 and up**  
**52pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD: Russian:**  
**worldwide (A Walk Through**  
**History); Spanish: Spain &**  
**Latin America (ECC)**  
**TERRITORY: World**



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ivan Brunetti lives and works in Chicago as a teacher, illustrator, and cartoonist, usually in that order. He is the author of Cartooning: Philosophy and Practice and Aesthetics: A Memoir, as well as the editor of both volumes of An Anthology of Graphic Fiction, Cartoons, and True Stories. His most recent books are Wordplay, 3x4, and Comics: Easy as ABC!. His drawings have appeared in the New Yorker and New York Times, among other publications.

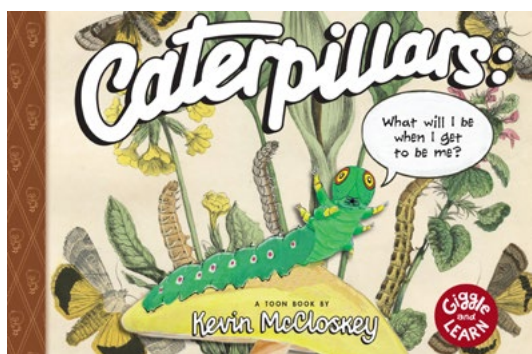
**ON SALE: Oct. 3, 2023**

**Ages 4–6**

**32pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD: Turkish (VAKIFBANK KÜLTÜR YAYINLARI)**

**TERRITORY: World, all languages**



## Caterpillars: What Will I Be When I Get to be Me?

by Kevin McCloskey

Kevin McCloskey keeps curious minds growing through blending science, art, and comedy in his Giggle and Learn series. Other award winning titles in the series include:

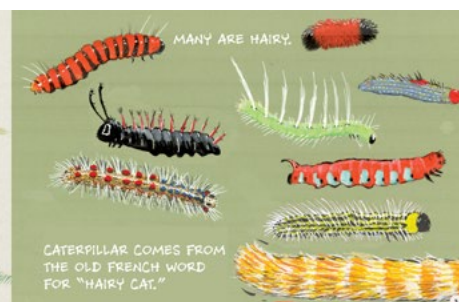
- *We Dig Worms!*
- *The Real Poop on Pigeons!*
- *Something's Fishy*
- *Snails Are Just My Speed!*
- *Ants Don't Wear Pants!*

Science: it's not just for cute animals anymore!

LIFETIME SALES: Over 70,000  
Giggle & Learn books sold

Is it a worm? Is it a snake? No! It's a caterpillar . . .

. . . and it's on its way to one of the most magical transformations in the insect world, from a crawling digestive tube to a fluttering glasswing, luna moth, or monarch on its journey across thousands-of-miles. In the latest addition to KEVIN MCCLOSKEY's beloved Giggle and Learn series, young readers will explore how caterpillars morph into the many different moths and butterflies that help pollinate our world. Growing up is scary, but caterpillars can lead the way!



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kevin McCloskey was a professor of illustration at Kutztown University in Pennsylvania. He has traveled the country from the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia to the California Academy of Sciences sharing fascinating facts about common creatures.

**ON SALE:** July 11, 2023  
**Ages** 4–7  
**32pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Brazil  
(Saraiva)  
**TERRITORY:** World,  
all languages





## Dreams of Green A Three Kings' Day Story

by Mariel Jungkunz

Illustrated by

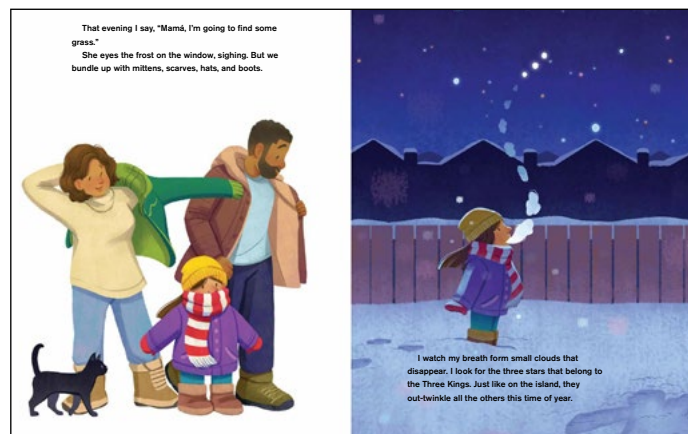
Mónica Paola Rodríguez

Also available to license in Spanish:  
*El Verde De Mis Sueños*



In this story about Día de los Reyes, or Three Kings' Day, a girl and her family discover new ways to celebrate their heritage.

It's eleven days after Christmas and Liliana yearns to be in lush Puerto Rico celebrating Día de los Reyes with family and friends. But this year, instead of dancing and singing in the parrandas of her Puerto Rican neighborhood, she is surrounded by snow up north. How will she ever be able to guide the Three Kings to her new home? This picture book is a celebration of culture and family traditions—and a reminder that we all carry a piece of home with us wherever life may take us.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Mariel Jungkunz** is a former journalist and a graduate of the Las Hermanas mentorship program for unpublished Latinx kidlit writers at Las Musas Books. Originally from Puerto Rico, she currently resides in Ohio, where she works as an editor for dictionary.com.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Mónica Paola Rodríguez** has a BFA in Fine Art from Savannah College of Art and Design and works primarily with picture book illustration and character design.

**ON SALE: Oct. 3, 2023**

**Ages 4–8**

**32pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**TERRITORY: World,  
all languages**



## Look and Cook Snacks

### *A First Book of Recipes in Pictures*

by Valorie Fisher

**Coming in Fall 2024!**

***Look and Cook Breakfast***

A completely unique, step-by-step visual guide to cooking breakfast for kids.



Cover not final

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Valorie Fisher** is the author of numerous books for kids, which have earned multiple starred reviews and have been named best books of the year by *Publishers Weekly*, *School Library Journal*, *Parenting Magazine*, and *Child Magazine*, among others.

The first of its kind, *Look and Cook Snacks* is an entirely visual introduction to cooking, designed for children who can't yet read, including twenty delicious, easy, and healthy snack recipes.

Easy-to-follow and almost entirely wordless, this cookbook lets your child take charge of their discovery of the kitchen and make delicious snacks for the entire family to enjoy! From scrumptious fruit smoothies to easy-peasy pizzas, *Look and Cook Snacks* is the perfect first recipe book for children new to the joys of cooking. Step-by-step instructions visually teach kids basics—like mixing and measuring—and introduce them to safe-to-use kitchen equipment and staple ingredients found in any pantry or fridge.



**ON SALE: Oct. 10, 2023**

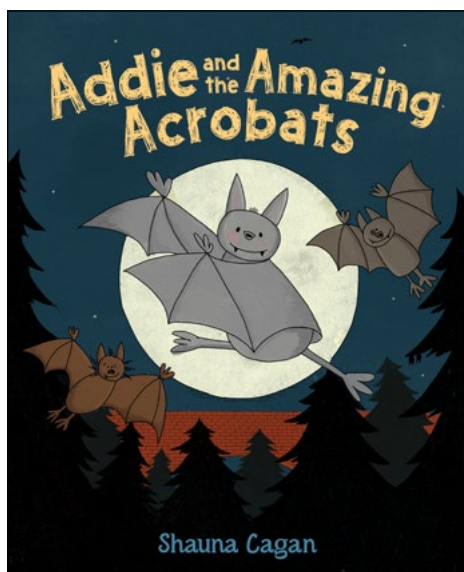
**Ages 4–8**

**56pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**TERRITORY: World,  
all languages**





Addie must choose fame or friendship in this delightfully off-beat picture book debut, that is tender, funny, and unforgettable.



## Addie and the Amazing Acrobats

by Shauna Cagan

ON SALE: Oct. 10, 2023  
Ages 4–8  
40pp  
RIGHTS SOLD:  
TERRITORY: World,  
all languages

MINERVA



In this fantastical picture book perfect for fans of Aaron Becker's *Journey*, a human child and a child from another planet discover that no matter where you live or what your books are like, reading—and sharing—are universal.



## The Book from Far Away

by Bruce Handy

illustrated by Julie Benbassat

ON SALE: Aug. 15, 2023  
Ages 4–8  
40pp  
RIGHTS SOLD:  
TERRITORY: World,  
all languages

# 

A 24-book series

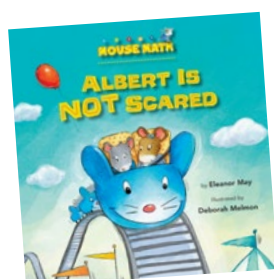


## Cheese Fest! Composing Shapes

Books in this series have won a Mathical Honor, a Moonbeam Children's Book Medal, and an International Literacy Association Children's Choices selection.

Each read-aloud book in the Mouse Math series focuses on a single, basic math concept and features adorable mice, Albert and Wanda, who live in a People House. Entertaining fiction stories capture kids' imaginations as the mice learn about numbers, shapes, sizes and more.

Math topics covered in this series include: Counting & Skip Counting, Addition, Subtraction, Sorting, Patterns, Position Words, Counting Money, 2-D and 3-D Shapes, and many more!



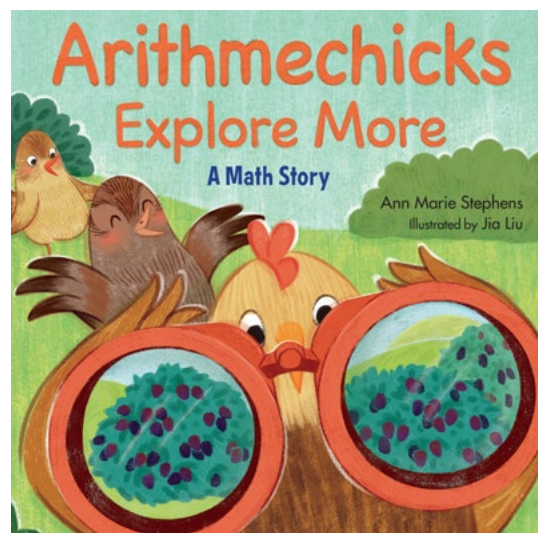
Over  
3 million  
Mouse Math  
books sold  
worldwide!

LIFETIME SALES: 3 MILLION  
COPIES SOLD WORLDWIDE  
Ages 4–8  
32pp  
RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified  
Chinese (Thinkingdom)  
TERRITORY: World



# Arithmechicks

A 6-book series



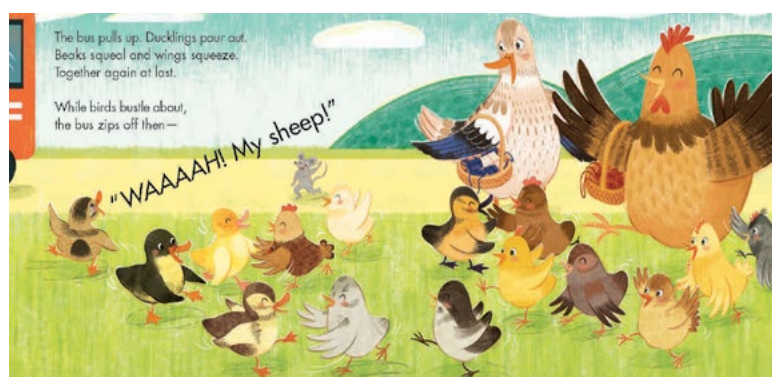
## Arithmechicks Explore More A Math Story

by Ann Marie Stephens  
illustrated by Jia Liu



Join the Arithmechicks on all of their math adventures! Readers will explore addition in *Arithmechicks Add Up*, subtraction in *Arithmechicks Take Away*, fact families in *Arithmechicks Take a Calculation Vacation*, fractions in *Arithmechicks Play Fair*, greater than/less than/equal to in *Arithmechicks Explore More*, and ordinal numbers in *Arithmechicks Find Their Place*. Each book in the series includes a helpful glossary that defines the modern arithmetic strategies the chicks use throughout the story.

**“Practical application mixes with play, adding up to enjoyable learning.” —Kirkus Reviews**



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Ann Marie Stephens** has been an elementary teacher for 30 years and is the author of 8 picture books. She was a contributing writer for Kwame Alexander's *The Write Thing*, a co-writer for *Trait Crate Plus* for grades 3 and 5, and has had dozens of original ideas published in *Instructor* and *The Mailbox* magazines. She blogs for teachers at [2happyteachers.blogspot.com](http://2happyteachers.blogspot.com). You can find her on Facebook under Ann Marie Stephens (AMStephensAuthor) and on Instagram and Twitter @AMStephens.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Jia Liu** received her MFA in illustration practice from the Maryland Institute College of Arts in 2016. She is also the illustrator of *Terrific Tongues*, her debut picture book in the United States, and *Bedtime for Beasties* as well as the Arithmechicks series. Illustrator website: [jia-liu.com](http://jia-liu.com).

**ON SALE: May 9, 2023**

**Ages 4–8**

**32pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese (Thinkingdom); Complex Chinese for books 1–4 (Tony Cultural Co., Ltd); Indonesian: Indonesia non-exclusive (Badan Pengembangan); Turkish ebook / 2 titles (KidzBOO)**  
**TERRITORY: World, all languages**

# Math Matters

A 46-book series

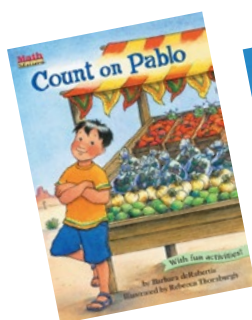
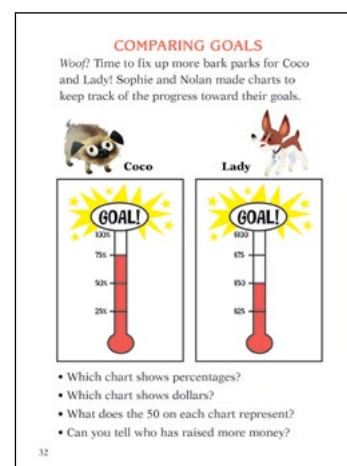


Discover Math Matters! With over 15 million books sold worldwide, this award-winning series of easy-to-read books will help young readers ages 5-8 approach math with enthusiasm. Great for fans of MathStart or Step Into Reading Math.

With engaging stories that connect math to kids' everyday lives, each book in this Teachers' Choice Award-winning series focuses on a single concept and reinforces math vocabulary and skills. Bonus activities in each book feature math and reading comprehension questions, and even more free activities online add to the fun!

Math topics covered in this series include: Counting & Skip Counting, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division, Telling Time, Measurement, Bar Graphs, Fractions, Estimation, Venn Diagrams, and many more!

**New topics for 2023 include Angles, Decimals, Metric System, and Rounding.**



Over  
15 million  
Math Matters  
books sold  
worldwide!

**ON SALE: Fall 2023**

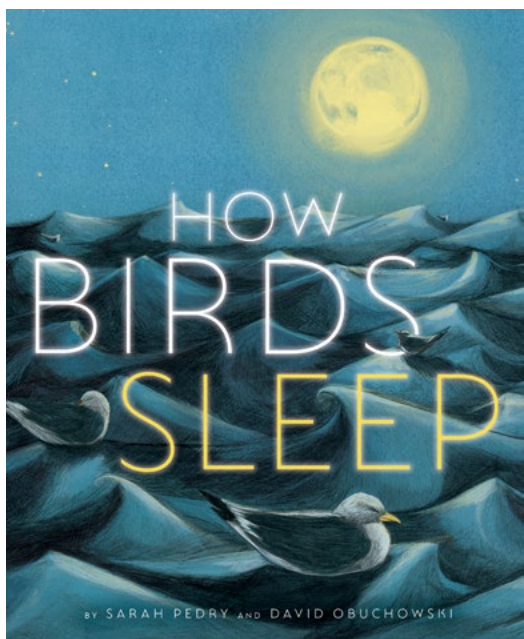
**Ages 5-8**

**32pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese and English bilingual: Mainland China (New Buds)**

**TERRITORY: World**





## How Birds Sleep

by David Obuchowski

illustrated by Sarah Pedry

Discover the mysterious and fascinating sleeping habits of more than twenty bird species from around the world in this gorgeously illustrated read-aloud picture book, perfect for bedtime, or any time.

Have you ever seen a bird sleep? Or wondered just when it is that migrating cranes find the time to catch Z's as they cross the ocean? From the parrots of Thailand to the ostriches of Australia and even the pigeons of New York City, every bird sleeps—but they do it in ways that will surprise and delight you. Some hang from tree branches, others doze while gliding, and some even burrow underground for a nap. Written in a witty, conversational voice, and with gorgeous illustrations, this picture book is bursting with interesting facts about this underexplored aspect of bird life all around us.

“Fascinating. . . gorgeously illustrated and full of facts for hungry young minds. . . Whether this is used as a bedtime read-aloud, or as part of a class unit on birds or animal adaptations—it is sure to capture the attention and imagination of young readers.”

—Suzanne Costner, *The Fairview Review*

“Did you ever wonder how and where birds sleep once the sun goes down? . . . Pedry’s artwork is a definite highlight. . . Share this one-on-one or in very small groups so children can see the details.” —*Kirkus Reviews*



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David Obuchowski is a writer and a musician. He writes about real-life stuff like cars, people, and birds, but he also makes up stories, too.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Sarah Pedry is an artist whose paintings and illustrations reflect her passion for nature and new places.

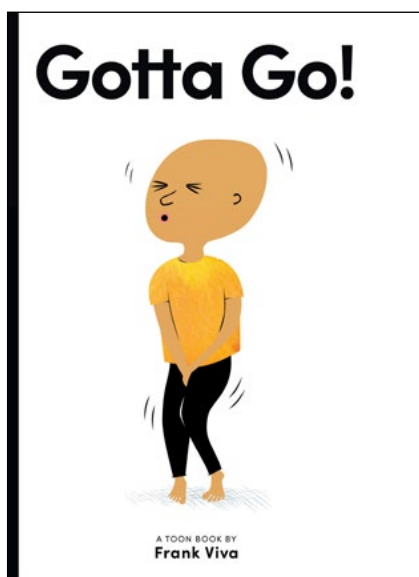
**ON SALE: June 6, 2023**

**Ages 4–8**

**40pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD: Brazil (Saraiva)**

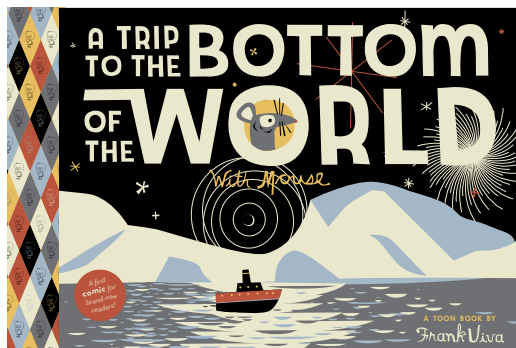
**TERRITORY: World, all languages**



## Gotta Go!

by Frank Viva

More from Frank Viva!



LIFETIME SALES: 13,000

Ages 4–8

36pp

RIGHTS SOLD: Romanian: World (Gama);

Spanish: Spain (La casita roja); English:

Mainland China excl. HK & Macau (Love

Reading); Russian: World (Voicebook);

German: World (Diogenes Verlag AG)

TERRITORY: World

### Will Owen be left high and dry?

Owen should have listened but instead he's now squirming: he's just gotta go! Luckily for him, Mom and grandpa are there to offer advice and show him silly tricks that can help flush the urge away. FRANK VIVA, the acclaimed designer and author of *A Trip to the Bottom of the World with Mouse* and *Young Frank, Architect*, doesn't mind getting his feet wet as he dives into what can be a scary topic for children and turns it into a hilarious and liberating romp.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Frank Viva is an award-winning artist and designer who lives in Toronto with his family. Viva's other books include the *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children's Book selection *Along a Long Road*, the Parents' Choice Award winner *A Long Way Away*, and TOON's Cybils award-winning *A Trip to the Bottom of the World with Mouse*. His art has appeared in many places, including regularly on the cover of *The New Yorker*.

ON SALE: Sept. 5, 2023

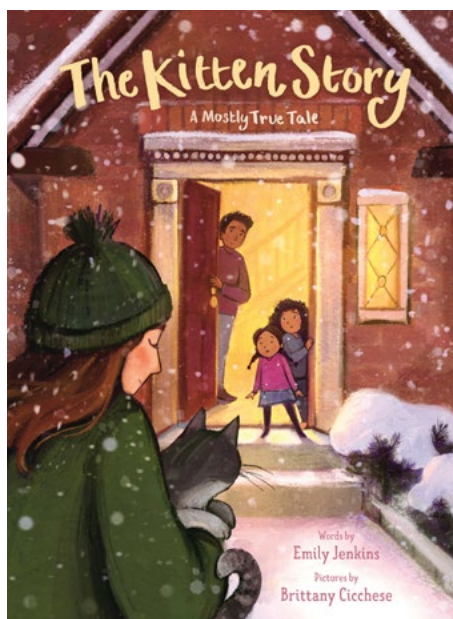
Ages 5–7

32pp

RIGHTS SOLD:

TERRITORY: World,  
all languages





## The Kitten Story A Mostly True Tale

by Emily Jenkins

illustrated by Brittany Cicchese



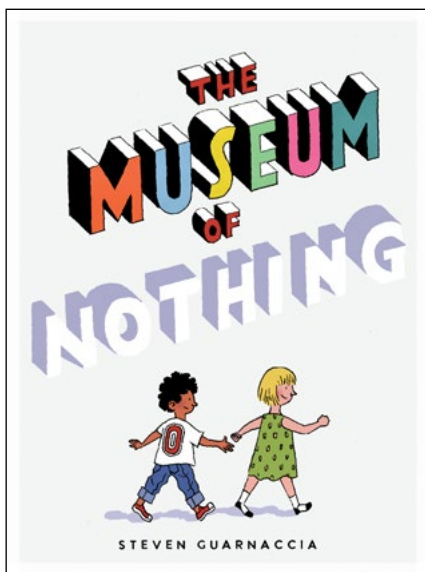
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

New York Times bestselling author **Emily Jenkins** is beloved by librarians, educators, parents, and kids for her picture books and chapter books, including *A Greyhound*, *a Groundhog*; *All-of-a-Kind Family Hanukkah*; *Harry Versus the First One Hundred Days of School*; *Toys Go Out*; and *Toys Meet Snow*. Emily lives in New York City with her family, which includes the real Blizzard the cat.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Brittany Cicchese**, a public librarian and illustrator, lives with her family in Denver, Colorado. When Brittany and her husband went to the animal shelter to adopt a new pet, they fully intended to take home a kitten. Instead they left with Sherbert, a three-year-old cat who completely stole their hearts. *The Kitten Story* is Brittany's picture book debut.

**ON SALE: Oct. 3, 2023**  
**Ages 5–8**  
**48pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**

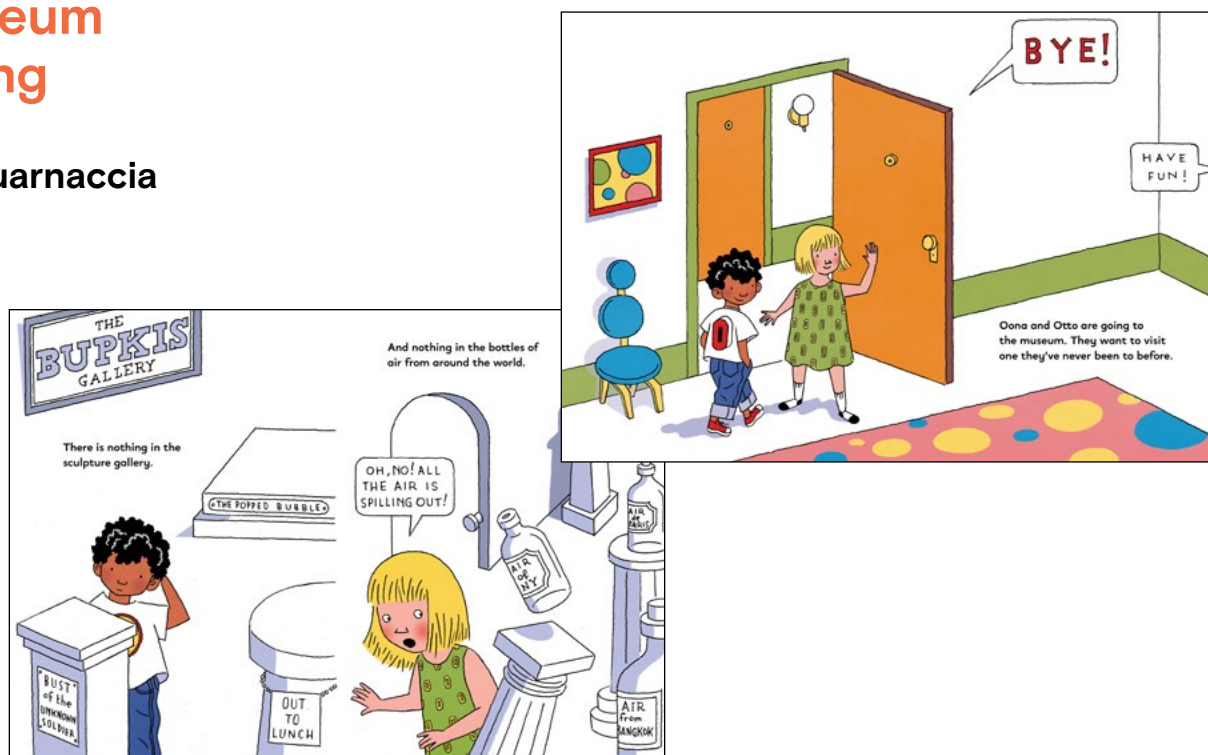


Discover all the many ways that nothing is really something! This mind-bendingly clever picture book about a visit to the Museum of Nothing will have curious readers marveling and laughing along.

There is so much more to nothing than you think! Join Oona and Otto on a tour of the funny, fascinating Museum of Nothing in this imaginative read-aloud from noted designer Guarnaccia. This museum proudly displays every kind of nothing. There's the Hall of Holes (donut, button, black), the Zero Wing, the Nobody Room—where the Invisible Man is the star attraction—and more. With pages full of witty details to discover, this captivating book is perfect for curious kids ages 5–9 looking for their next big mind-bending adventure.

## The Museum of Nothing

by Steven Guarnaccia



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Steven Guarnaccia** is an illustrator and Professor Emeritus of Parsons School of Design. He was formerly Op-Ed art director of the *New York Times*. His work has appeared in major magazines and newspapers including the *New York Times*, *Abitare*, and *Rolling Stone*, and he has created murals for Disney and exhibition drawings for the Museum of Modern Art. He is the author of books on popular culture and design including *Black and White* and *A Stiff Drink & A Close Shave*. He has designed watches for Swatch and greeting cards for the Museum of Modern Art, won awards from the AIGA, the Art Directors Club, and the Bologna Book Fair and has had one-man shows internationally. His children's books include his fairy tales about design, *The Three Bears: A Tale Moderne*; *The Three Little Pigs: An Architectural Tale*; and *Cinderella: A Fashionable Tale*.

**ON SALE: Oct. 17, 2023**

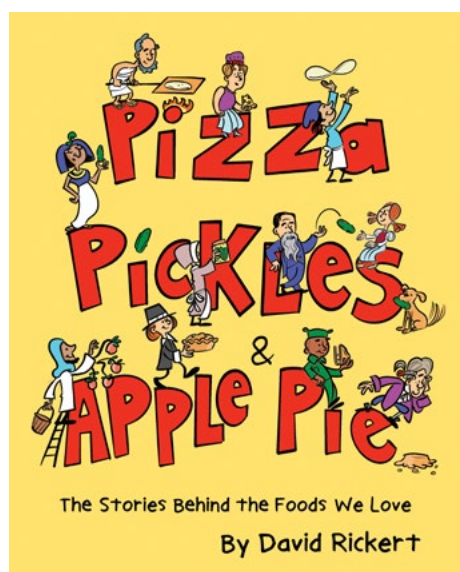
**Ages 5–9**

**48pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD: German (Hatje Cantz Verlag); Mexico (Alboroto); Italy (Corraini)**

**TERRITORY: World, all languages**





## Pizza, Pickles, and Apple Pie *The Stories Behind the Foods We Love*

by David Rickert

**Coming in Fall 2024!**

**Say AHH! The Stories  
Behind Shots, Check-  
ups, and Other Things  
Doctors Do**

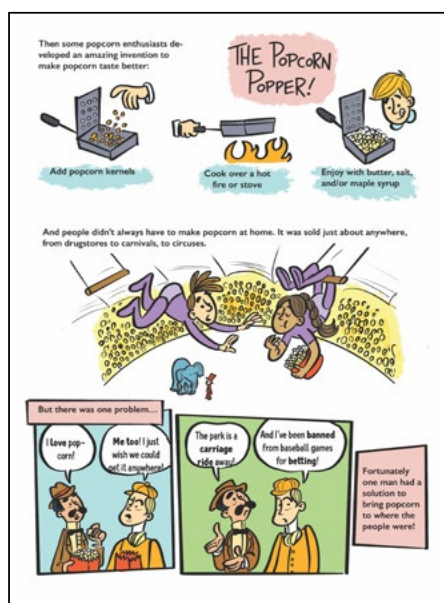
This follow-up to *Pizza, Pickles, and Apple Pie* explores the science and history behind common medical practices and procedures and looks at health problems, treatments, and medical breakthroughs.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

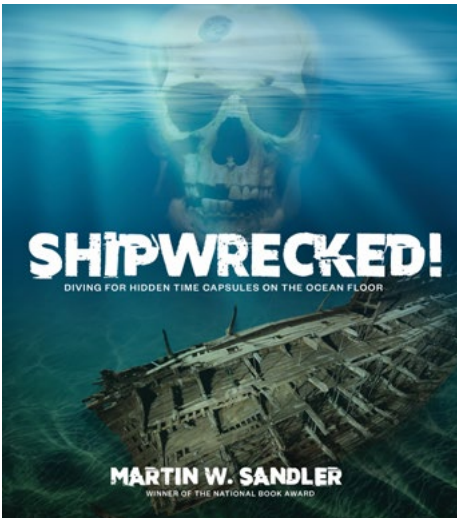
David Rickert is an educator as well as an author and illustrator of comics. After receiving his teaching degree from Ohio State University, David had an itch to create comics for education. Working with the Teachers Pay Teachers marketplace, teachers around the world have embraced his comics as an effective way to teach English to young readers.

How did a pizza become a pizza? Is a pickle really a cucumber in disguise? Explore fascinating food history, nutrition, and pop culture through this middle-grade graphic-format nonfiction book for kids that answers oft-asked questions about the foods we love, explaining how they came to be.

Whether it's pizza and pickles or sushi and salad, there's a story behind all of our favorite foods. From breakfast to dinner, this book explores popular foods from our history, and explains their origins. Young readers will travel back in time—sometimes thousands of years—to cultures all over the globe to learn how and why foods were discovered. They'll also meet key people from food history along the way, including the inventor of breakfast cereal and the creator of salad dressing. The science behind unhealthy foods is also explored in this fascinating book, which includes projects and activities for both the classroom and home.



**ON SALE: Sept. 19, 2023**  
**Ages 8–12**  
**128pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World,**  
**all languages**



## Shipwrecked! Diving for Hidden Time Capsules on the Ocean Floor

by Martin W. Sandler

From National Book Award–winning author Martin W. Sandler, here is a fascinating look at what shipwrecks reveal about our world’s past—and how exploring them led to the development of a whole new field of science: marine archaeology.

Most of the world’s ocean floor remains to be discovered. In fact, it’s estimated to be home to over 3 million sunken vessels and countless treasures of the past. This enthralling and adventure-filled nonfiction book for young readers recounts some of the most captivating shipwrecks from history, ranging from the *Shinan*, a Chinese merchant ship laden with riches from the 14th century, to the the HMS *Erebus* and *Terror*, two polar exploration ships that mysteriously disappeared in the early 1800s. Combining new research, stunning archival material, and vivid storytelling, *Shipwrecked!* dives deep into the world of marine archaeology and shows young readers what each discovery reveals about the world before our time.

“In individual chapters, the National Book Award–winning author focuses on seven shipwrecks with perhaps lesser-known recognition but notable historical significance. . . . Most important, however, are the connections made to humans’ impact on history, from trade routes to technological advances to the horrors of slavery. Photos from the expedition scenes and lengthy sidebars on such topics as the role of women sponge divers on shipwreck discoveries add more insight to this thought-provoking STEM offering.” —*Booklist*

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Martin W. Sandler** has written over seventy books for children and adults, including the National Book Award–winning *1919: The Year That Changed America* and the YALSA Nonfiction finalists *The Whydah: A Pirate Ship Feared, Wrecked, and Found* and *Imprisoned*. He has also worked as a documentary producer and was nominated for multiple Emmys for writing for television.

**ON SALE:** Sept. 18, 2023  
**Ages** 10–14  
**160pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY:** World,  
all languages



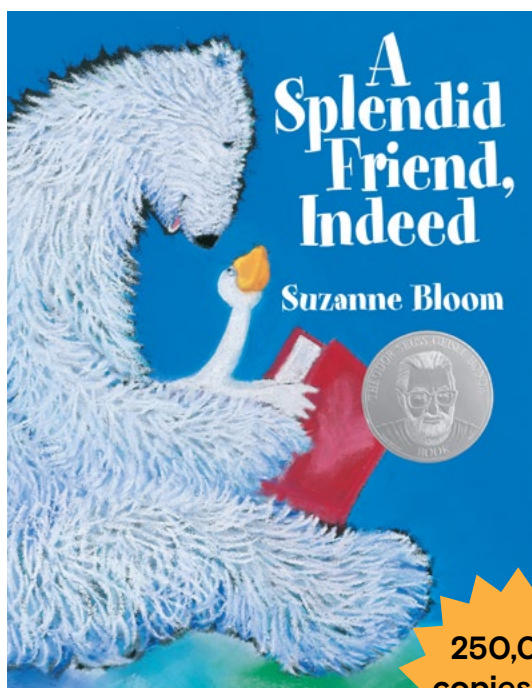
# NOTABLE BACKLIST

*Don't miss these award-winning and best-selling titles from Astra Books for Young Readers!*



Artwork from  
*Blancaflor*,  
illustrated by  
Sergio García  
Sánchez





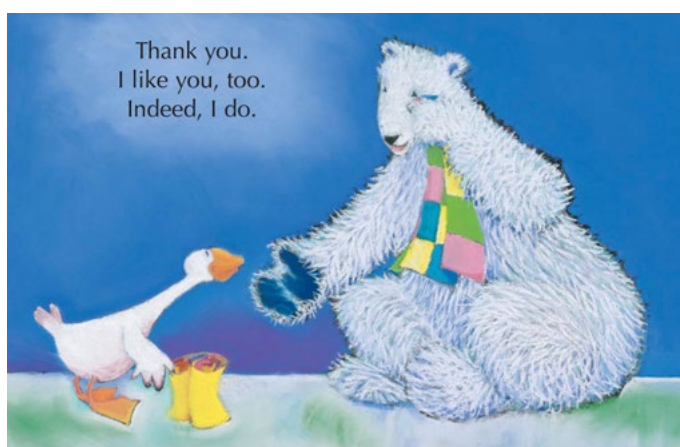
**250,000  
copies sold  
in the U.S.!**

## A Splendid Friend, Indeed

by Suzanne Bloom

Ask about more books in the beloved, bestselling Goose and Bear series!

- Alone Together
- Bear Can Dance!
- Fox Forgets
- Oh! What a Surprise!
- Treasure
- What About Bear?



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Suzanne Bloom** is the author and illustrator of the ever-popular Goose and Bear series, including the Geisel Honor-winning *A Splendid Friend, Indeed*, as well as many books outside the series, such as *I Just Like You*, *The Bus for Us* and *A Mighty Fine Time Machine*. A longtime resident of upstate New York, Suzanne is a graduate of Cooper Union and is a mother and a grandmother. Visit [suzannebloom.com](http://suzannebloom.com).

**LIFETIME SALES: 250,000**

**Ages 1-3**

**32pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD: China: Simplified Chinese + English bilingual (Thinkingdom)**

**TERRITORY: World**



# This Orq.

Part of a 3-book series



## (He Cave Boy.)

by David Elliott

illustrated by Lori Nichols

This picture book filled with humor and heart is ideal for anyone wishing for a pet to join their family.

Meet Orq, cave boy. And Woma, woolly mammoth.

Orq love Woma. Only one problem: Mom not a fan. Mom says Woma shed; Woma smell; Woma not house-trained. Is there any way Orq can convince his mom that Woma belongs with them? Orq has a plan. Well, kind of. . .

Hilarious and sweet, this engaging story is a perfect addition to any home library.

In this irresistible 3-book series, an exuberant cave boy (Orq) and his beloved woolly mammoth (Woma) tackle universal challenges. *This Orq. (He say UGH!)* pits Orq and Woma against a couple of stone-age bullies. In *This Orq. (He #1!)*, Orq is overshadowed by a new kid, who seems to be best at everything, until Orq's scientific ingenuity is invaluable in a crisis.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**David Elliott** lives in New Hampshire with his wife and a Dandie Dinmont terrier who doesn't shed, doesn't smell, and is housetrained. Kind of. David is the author of the *New York Times* Best Seller *And Here's to You!* illustrated by Randy Cecil; a trio of poetry books about animals illustrated by Holly Meade (*On the Farm*, *In the Sea*, and the ALSC Notable Book for Children *In the Wild*); and the brilliantly funny *Finn Throws a Fit* illustrated by Timothy Basil Ering; as well as many other picture books and middle-grade novels. [davidelliottbooks.com](http://davidelliottbooks.com).

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Lori Nichols** grew up in Northwestern Pennsylvania surrounded by pets. Although Lori never had a woolly mammoth, she did convince her mother to let her have a parakeet, dog, cat, hermit crab, salamander, frog, and grasshopper. She lives in Birmingham, Alabama, with her husband, three daughters, and cat (Margaret) and is the author and illustrator of the picture book, *Maple*. [lorinichols.com](http://lorinichols.com).

**LIFETIME SALES: 13,274 (BOOK 1)**  
**Ages 3–7**  
**40pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD: Argentina (Spanish), Brazil (exp. 4/2023), Simplified Chinese (Publishing House of Electronics Industry Co., Ltd.), UK, France, Germany, Hungary, Korea, Spain, Sweden (rights reverted), Turkey, Vietnam**  
**TERRITORY: World**



## Merry Witchmas

by Petrell Marie Özbay,  
Tess LaBella  
illustrated by Sonya Abby

Ginger the Halloween witch has a big Christmas wish—a visit from Santa Claus. But Santa doesn't believe in witches—until Ginger's letter to him magically appears on his desk! This book is a perfect Christmas gift or stocking stuffer for kids.

Ginger spends a lot of her time creating spells, and flying through the night on her broom. But she is different from the other witches—because she also **ADORES** Christmas! Even with Ginger's good deeds and endless Christmas cheer, she's never received a single visit from Santa. What's a Christmas-loving Halloween witch supposed to do? In this twist on the Christmas holiday's traditional "believe" concept, Ginger's wish of a Merry Witchmas comes true thanks to some holiday magic and good cheer.

"Fans of both holidays will find this unusual mix fun and engaging."  
—Kirkus Reviews



### ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Petrell Marie Özbay** has an extensive global public affairs, marketing and communication background. A life-long lover of reading, she authored and published the multi-award winning *Xs and Os for Gabby Ann*, a book to help children missing a parent at bedtime.

**Tess La Bella** is a SAG-AFTRA award-winning voice-over artist, actor, comic and producer. Through live theater, storytelling and teaching, she has long combined her love of animation voice-over with her passion for children's literacy.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Sonya Abby** is originally from Jakarta, Indonesia, and now lives in San Francisco. Her interest in children's book illustrations stems from her love of bright and vibrant colors, as well as the various whimsical fantasies she grew up reading.

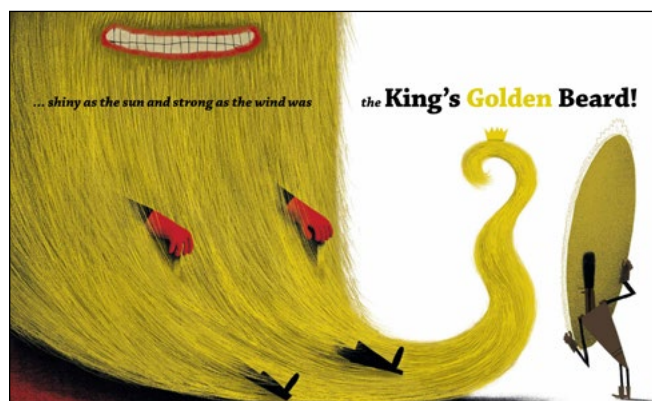
**ON SALE: Sept. 21, 2021**  
**Ages 3–7**  
**32pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World**





## The King's Golden Beard

by Klaas Verplancke



*Eligible for a translation grant from Flanders Literature*

Who's to blame when a vain, heedless king meets his comeuppance? He is, of course! Fans of Tomi Ungerer's mischievous humor and Jon Agee's sly morality tales will be delighted by this hilarious read-aloud about a long, long beard and its short-sighted royal owner, by a popular Belgian illustrator, designer, and animation whiz.

The lush, golden royal beard is a wondrous thing—especially to the king himself. He spends his days admiring and grooming it, and passes laws making it a crime punishable by death for anyone else's face to sport even a single hair. As the people of the kingdom nervously shave daily, the royal beard grows and grows until it appears at the palace's back gate. What happens next will have readers laughing along—and cheering for the astronomers who, unlike the tyrannical king, know that the earth is round.

**A 2022 Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year**

**"Deeply satisfying." —Kirkus Reviews**

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Klaas Verplancke** is an author, illustrator, animator and professor of illustration whose clients include The New Yorker, The New York Times, and MOMA. A finalist for the Hans Christian Andersen Medal for illustration and a frequent nominee for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, Verplancke has written and illustrated books that have won the prestigious Bologna Ragazzi Award and been selected for the White Raven and IBBY Honor lists. In the spring of 2020, his animated poster "Save Lives. Live Safe. #keepdistance" appeared on Times Square screens, the double-sided Lincoln Tunnel billboard, and 1,800 linkNYC screens throughout New York City and was promoted via interviews on PBS Newshour and more.

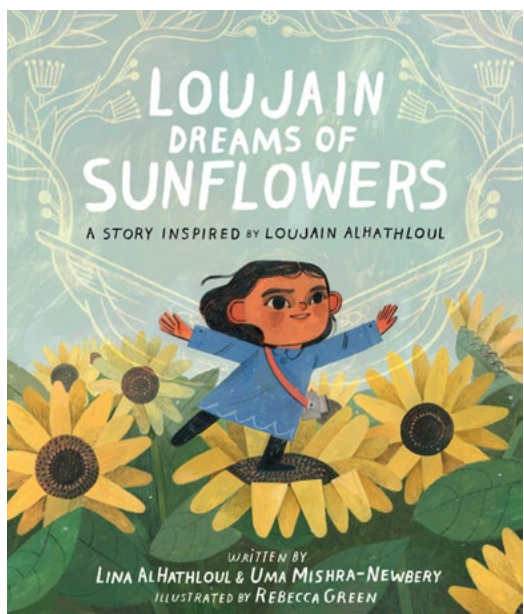
**ON SALE: 2021**

**Ages 4–8**

**48pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Japanese: World (KAGAKU DOJIN); French: World (mineditionFr); Dutch: World (E.M. Querido's Uitgeverij BV); German: World (mineditionAG); Simplified Chinese: Mainland China, HK & Macau (Thinkingdom), Bosnian; Turkish ebook (KidzBOO)

**TERRITORY:** World



## Loujain Dreams of Sunflowers

by **Uma Mishra-Newbery,**  
**Lina Al-Hathloul**  
illustrated by **Rebecca Green**

A courageous girl follows her dream of learning to fly in this “clever narrative” filled with “extraordinary spirit... gorgeous colors... a magical quality” (***New York Times***). Inspired by formerly imprisoned human rights activist Loujain AlHathloul, this sparkling fantasy story is perfect for fans of ***Malala’s Magic Pencil*** and the Rebel Girls series.

“Poetic, moving, and empowering.” —***Kirkus Reviews***

Loujain watches her beloved baba attach his feather wings and fly each morning, but her own dreams of flying face a big obstacle: only boys, not girls, are allowed to fly in her country. Yet despite the taunts of her classmates, she is determined to do it—especially because Loujain loves colors, and only by flying can she see the color-filled field of sunflowers her baba has told her about. Eventually, he agrees to teach her, and Loujain’s impossible dream becomes reality—and soon other girls dare to learn to fly.

Based on the experiences of co-author Lina AlHathloul’s sister, Nobel Peace Prize nominee Loujain AlHathloul, who led the successful campaign to lift Saudi Arabia’s ban on women driving, this moving and gorgeously illustrated story reminds us to strive for the changes we want to see—and to never take for granted women’s and girls’ freedoms.

**Winner – 2022 Middle East Book Award (picture book)**

**Winner – A Bookstagang Best Picture Book Biography**

**MSNBC Gift Guide: 12 Incredible Books to Inspire Young Girls To Know Their Value.**

“Read this if you want a powerful and moving story about how sometimes rules are meant to be broken. . . . beautifully-illustrated . . . introduces readers to the idea that unfair rules can be changed.” —Ciarra Chavarria, @girlsreadtheworld via MSNBC.com

“A clever narrative filled with extraordinary spirit . . . gorgeous colors . . . a magical quality.” —***New York Times***

**One of the 20 Best Books To Read in March**

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Uma Mishra-Newbery and Lina Al-Hathloul** are human rights activists. Lina is the sister of Loujain AlHathloul, the women’s rights activist formerly imprisoned by the Saudi government. Loujain Dreams of Sunflowers is their debut book. Learn more at [loujaindreamsofsunflowers.com](http://loujaindreamsofsunflowers.com).

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Rebecca Green** is an illustrator, painter, and author working in children’s publishing, editorial, and fine art. She loves experimenting with traditional materials and use an array of media including gouache, colored pencil, ink, and cut paper.

**ON SALE: Sept. 1, 2022**

**Ages 4–8**

**40pp**

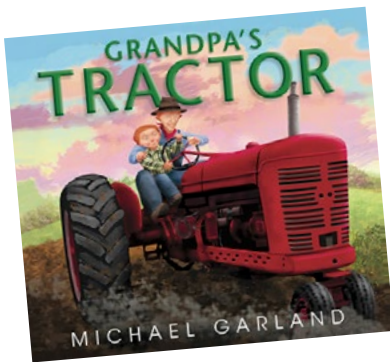
**RIGHTS SOLD: German (mineditionAG), Korean (FIKA), French (Les 400 Coups) TERRITORY: World**





## Grandma's Farm

by Michael Garland



Also by Michael Garland:  
**GRANDPA'S TRACTOR**  
 50,000 copies sold in the U.S.!  
 ON SALE April 1, 2011  
 TERRITORY: World

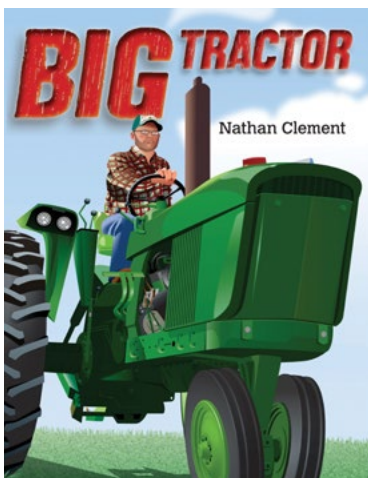
In this charming and nostalgia-filled companion to the best-selling picture book *Grandpa's Tractor*, a grandmother shares her fond memories of farm life.

Grandma Ginny and Timmy take a trip to visit the site of the family farm, where the old house and some rickety buildings still stand. Timmy had visited with Grandpa before and learned all about his tractor, but Grandma has her own stories to tell of planting the fields, harvesting the crops, and feeding the animals. Guided by Grandma's farm diary and her fond memories, Timmy and Grandma tour the land and talk about what life was like back then. This heartwarming intergenerational story is perfect for grandparents to share with their grandchildren, and for those looking for a story to share about simpler times.

**Michael Garland** has written and illustrated many books for children, including *Miss Smith and the Haunted Library*, *Ferry Boat*, and *Birds Make Nests*. He lives in Patterson, New York.

**ON SALE Oct. 11, 2022**  
**Ages 4–8**  
**32pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD: Indonesian:**  
**Indonesia non-exclusive**  
**(Badan Pengembangan)**  
**TERRITORY: World**

*More like this!*

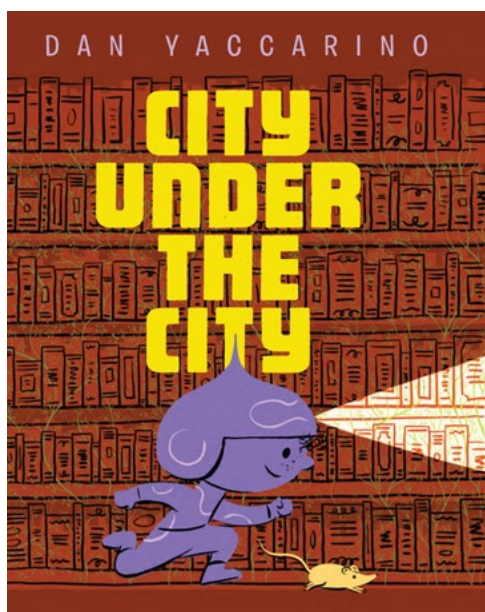


## Big Tractor

by Nathan Clement

This dynamic picture book shows a big tractor from spring to harvest—planting, cultivating, harvesting, and doing other important tasks on a busy farm.

**LIFETIME SALES: 18,000**  
**AGES 5–8**  
**32PP**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: WORLD**



## City Under the City

by Dan Yaccarino

Don't miss *The Longest Storm*!



From acclaimed author-illustrator Dan Yaccarino comes an exhilarating adventure—set in a richly imagined alternate future—celebrating autonomy, community, and the power of reading, perfect for fans of *The Rock From the Sky*.

Bix lives with her family in a city where people rarely talk or play together, and no longer read books. Instead, they stare at small portable screens, monitored by giant eyeballs. The Eyes are here to help! With everything. But Bix would like to do things for herself. Running from an Eye, she discovers another world: the City Under the City. There, she befriends a rat who leads her to a library and its treasure trove of books and knowledge. As she explores the abandoned city, she's thrilled to learn about the people who lived there, with no Eyes. But she misses her family, and decides to head home, where, just maybe, she can help defeat the intrusive Eyes—and show her people how to think for themselves and enjoy each other's company. Told through Dan Yaccarino's stunning graphic style, this page-turning picture book/early reader crossover will spark a new appreciation of reading, books, independence, friendship, and family.

A Publishers Weekly Big Indie Book for Fall

101 Great Books for Kids List, Evanston Public Library (IL)

★ “This is heady stuff made enticing to young readers through cartoonish art with comics-style panels and a well-chosen palette. . . . In *City Under the City*, Yaccarino does again what he did so well in *Doug Unplugged* and *Doug Unplugs on the Farm*: comment on the present through the experience of a child of the future.” —*Shelf Awareness*

“Readers should appreciate the parallels between the Eyes and a familiar screen-obsessed surveillance culture, and resonate with Bix's thirst for knowledge and refusal to settle for the status quo.” —*Publishers Weekly*

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Winner of prestigious awards including the Bologna Ragazzi, The New York Times 10 Best Illustrated, ALA Notable, and the Parents' Choice Award, **Dan Yaccarino** is an internationally acclaimed author-illustrator of many beloved picture books. *The Longest Storm* received 4 stars and was on several Best of Year lists including the *New York Times*, *PW*, and *Kirkus*. Other books include *I Am a Story*, *Five Little Pumpkins*, *Five Little Bunnies*, *Trashy Town*, *Every Friday*, and *Giant Tess*. Dan's books have sold over 2.5 million copies to date. He also created and produced Nickelodeon's *Oswald* and is the character designer behind *The Backyardigans*.

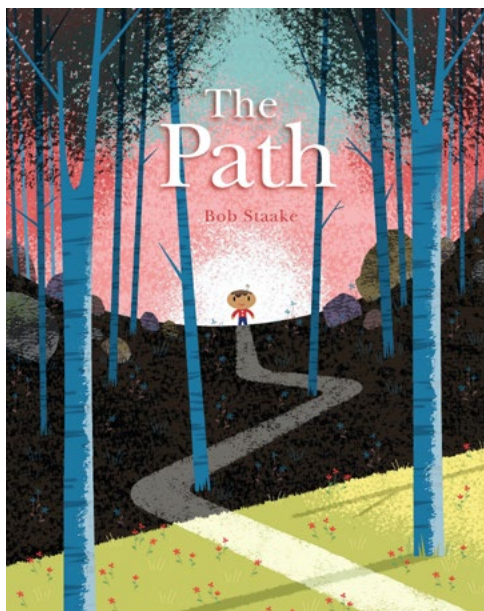
**ON SALE; Nov. 15, 2022**

**Ages 4–8**

**68pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD: Korean (DABOM); Complex Chinese: worldwide excl. Mainland China incl. HK & Macau (WordField); Turkish ebook (KidzBOO) TERRITORY: World**





## The Path A Picture Book About Finding Your Own True Way

by **Bob Staake**

Perfect for a new generation of path forgers, this buoyant picture book from an award-winning author and *New Yorker* cover artist is a hip new take on the graduation book.

With a bonus print from Bob Staake inside the jacket.

On this playfully illustrated journey with Bob Staake, children and adults alike will discover an encouraging truth: our path through life is not only challenging and beautiful—it is all our own to discover and invent.

"You will walk. You will walk along a well-worn path that many people have taken—and long before you." So begins this inspirational journey over gentle, grassy hills, through fields of wildflowers, over raging rivers, up steep mountains, and even through a dark, chilly cave. When it splits in two, you will have to decide what to do next—and you'll create a path that's unique to you.

**"One of The Best Picture Books of 2022. A story of choice and perseverance. . .an excellent example of why we can never resist a book by Bob Staake."** —*Read Brightly*

★ **"An extremely inspiring story about life's twists and turns that will have universal appeal."** —*School Library Journal*, **STARRED** review

**A *Tinybeans* Best Children's Book of 2022**

**"Excellent for discussion of self-discovery, making choices, and increasing self-confidence, this story is useful for both the classroom and for parents supporting growth opportunities."** —*Booklist*



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Bob Staake** is the author and illustrator of many beloved picture books including *Bluebird* and *Look! A Book!* He is a frequent *New Yorker* cover artist. Staake has authored and/or illustrated over 75 books, including *The Donut Chef*, *Bluebird*, *Bugs Galore*, *Hello Robots*, *Look A Book*, *This Is Not A Pumpkin*, *Pets Go Pop*, and others. *The New York Times* named his book *The Red Lemon* one of the 10 Best Illustrated Books of 2006. Staake's children's books have been translated into over 12 languages around the world. He lives and works in Chatham, Massachusetts in a 200-year-old house on the elbow of Cape Cod.

**ON SALE: Apr. 5, 2022**

**Ages 4–8**

**32pp**

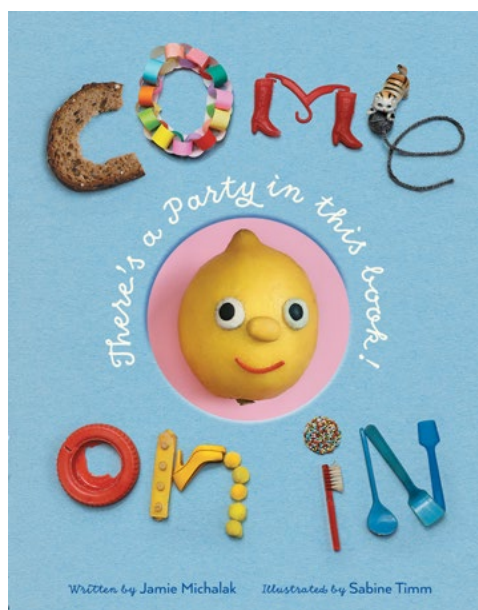
**RIGHTS SOLD: French**

**(mineditionFr); German**

**(mineditionAG); Indonesian: Indonesia non-exclusive (Badan Pengembangan);**

**Turkish ebook (KidzBOO)**

**TERRITORY: World**



## Come On In There's a Party in this Book!

by **Jamie Michalak**  
illustrated by **Sabine Timm**

The Instagram darling from Düsseldorf, Germany has created her first picture book! Can YOU help Lemon find the party? Wonderful news for the 165,000 followers of Sabine Timm @virgin\_honey.

Come to Lemon's world and meet a rainbow-tastical collection of friends: cats wearing boots, fruits dressed in suits, dogs made of bread, and pigeons named Fred. With eye-popping art and cheerful, bouncy text, *Come on In* offers up a fresh take on inclusivity, and will have crafty kids and DIYers thinking: I bet I can make those, too!

**One of The Best Picture Books of 2022. —Read Brightly**

**"A bright confection of diorama and rhyme...inspiringly playful and so full of childlike joy." —Rowboat Watkins, *New York Times***



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

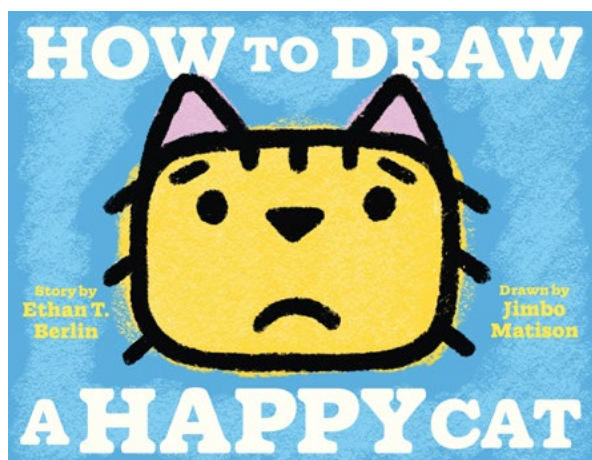
**Jamie Michalak** is a children's book author who loves fruits, suits, and fruits in suits. She lives in Rhode Island.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Sabine Timm** studied at the Arts Academy of Düsseldorf (Kunstakademie Düsseldorf) and is a creator, a beach-trash collector, flea-market lover, and photographer.

**ON SALE: Sept. 20, 2022**  
**Ages 4–8**  
**40pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian and Catalan (Kokinos)**  
**TERRITORY: World**





## How to Draw a Happy Cat

by Ethan T. Berlin

illustrated by Jimbo Matison

**Coming in Fall 2024!**

### *How to Draw a Brave Chicken*

Drawing a brave chicken is not as easy as it looks in this sequel to *How To Draw a Happy Cat*. Chicken must learn to be brave as she stops hiding, gains armor, fight off dragons and eventually flies into space.



Cover not final

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

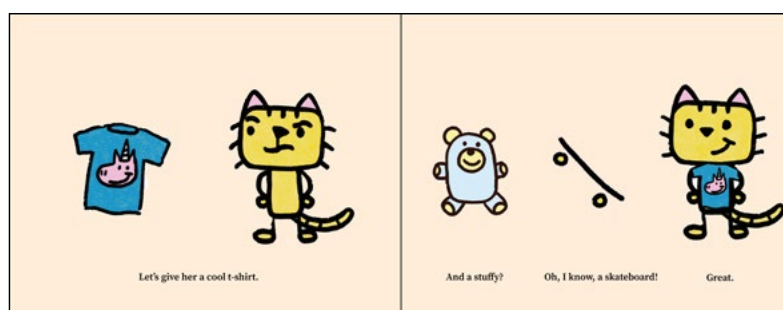
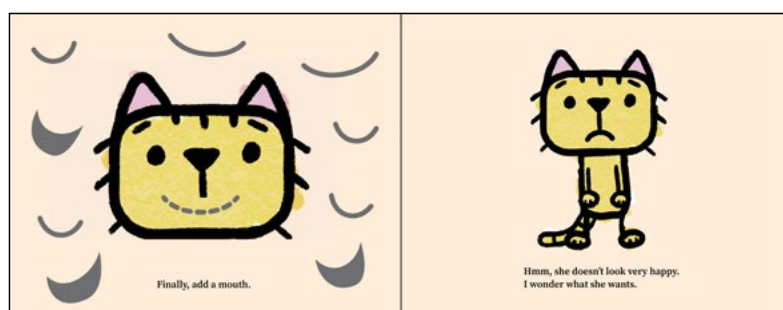
**Ethan T. Berlin** is a dad, a writer, a comedy teacher, and an all-around funny guy. He lives with his family in New Jersey.

#### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

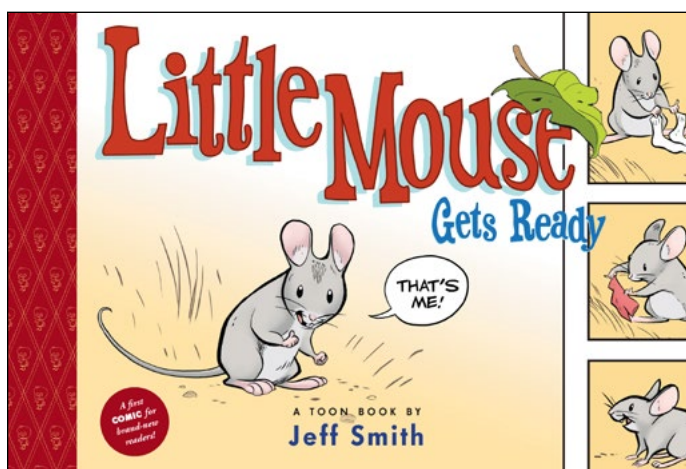
**Jimbo Matison** is an illustrator, a writer/director, and a former punk rocker. He lives with his family in Brooklyn.

A “How to Draw” lesson spins hilariously out of control when Cat just won’t stay happy! It’s up to you, the reader, to help!

Drawing a happy cat seems like such an easy thing to do. Just follow the instructions in this book! Wait a minute... why doesn’t Cat look happy? Uh-oh! Turns out drawing a happy cat is harder than it looks. This clever, often tender, laugh-out-loud picture book breaks the fourth wall in charming ways; will have kids asking for repeat reads; and will definitely have parents nodding knowingly at the escalating cycle of demands. Can you draw a happy cat?



**ON SALE October 2022**  
**Ages 4–8**  
**40pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**TERRITORY: World**



## Little Mouse Gets Ready

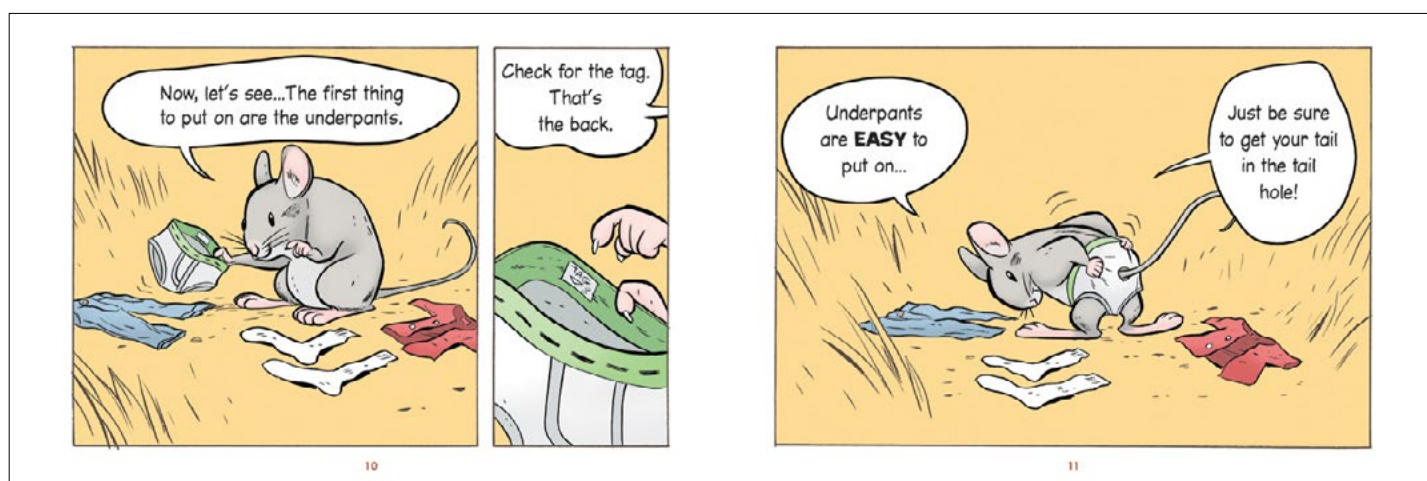
TOON Level 1

by Jeff Smith

A Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book & A Junior Library Guild Selection.

Will Little Mouse master all the intricacies of getting dressed, from snaps and buttons to Velcro and tail holes? Eisner Award-winning cartoonist Jeff Smith and his determined Little Mouse reveal all the smallest pleasures of this daily task.

- ALA Geisel Honor Book by famed cartoonist Jeff Smith, author of Bone.
- Doubles as a read aloud book with toddlers and a book young children can begin to read on their own.
- The perfect addition to Animal Stories classroom library collections for Grades K-2 and for Personal Care collections for Pre-K.
- Accompanying TOON into Reading CCSS-Aligned Lesson Plan and Activity Sheet (free download)
- 50,000 books sold in the U.S.



LIFETIME SALES: 67,000  
Ages 4-8  
32pp  
RIGHTS SOLD: Spanish:  
Spain & Latin America (ECC)  
TERRITORY: World





## Stinky

TOON Level 2

by Eleanor Davis

When a new kid enters Stinky's swamp, this adorable little monster comes up with all sorts of crazy plans to scare him away. But Stinky quickly learns to conquer his fear, as he realizes that bats, rats, and toads aren't the only friends you can find in the swamp. This hilarious and heartwarming story proves that even monsters can make new friends . . . warts and all!

- An all-time TOON favorite!
- A Theodore Seuss Geisel Honor Book
- Curriculum theme: growing and making new friends
- Strong cross-over markets: comics and museum/design store appeal
- Accompanying TOON into Reading CCSS-Aligned Lesson Plan and Activity Sheet (free download)

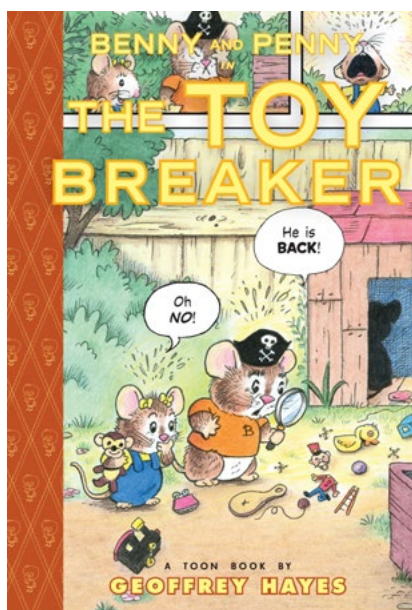
LIFETIME SALES: 45,000

Ages 4–8

32pp

RIGHTS SOLD: Spanish: Spain & Latin America (ECC); English: Mainland China excl. HK & Macau (Love Reading)

TERRITORY: World



## Benny and Penny in the Toy Breaker

TOON Level 2

by Geoffrey Hayes

Benny and Penny hide every toy and tell Cousin Bo he can't play with them. Will the three mice find a way to play without something getting torn, ripped, or snatched away? Geoffrey Hayes, the uncontested master of children's comics, thrills us with this hilarious tale of tiny cousins who discover a game that can't ever be ruined.

- Part of the 5-book award-winning Benny and Penny Series by Geoffrey Hayes
- Doubles as a read aloud book with toddlers and a book young children can begin to read on their own.
- The perfect addition to Family Stories and Bullying classroom library collections for Grades K-2.
- Accompanying TOON into Reading CCSS-Aligned Lesson Plan and Activity Sheet (free download).

LIFETIME SALES: 55,000

Ages 4–8

32pp

RIGHTS SOLD: Romanian: World (Gama); English: Mainland China excl. HK & Macau (Love Reading)

TERRITORY: World

# MAKERS

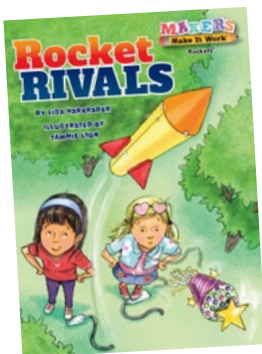
## Make It Work™

A 12-book series



Tying into the popular Makers Movement, *Makers Make it Work* is a series of fun easy-to-read stories that focus on problem-solving and hands-on action. With bright, eye-catching art and explanatory sidebars with additional information on the topic, these books show kids how to use their hands, their heads, their creativity, and their problem-solving skills to overcome every challenge facing them. Each book also includes an activity for young makers to try themselves.

Books in this series include: *7 Days Till Ice Cream* (Coding), *Double or Nothing* (3-D Printing), *How to Grow a Monster* (Gardening) (American Farm Bureau Book of the Year), *Robot to the Rescue* (Robots), *Rocket Rivals* (Rockets), *Slime King* (Chemistry/Slime), *The Broken Bees' Nest* (Beekeeping), *The Color Day Coach* (Baking), *The Great Pumpkin Smash* (Engineering), *The Lost and Found Weekend* (Sewing), *The Runaway Chicken* (Woodworking), and *Time to Shine!* (Solar Ovens/Solar Energy).



ON SALE: 2018

Ages 5-8

32pp

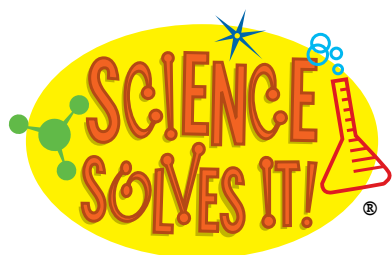
RIGHTS SOLD: Indonesian:

Indonesia non-exclusive

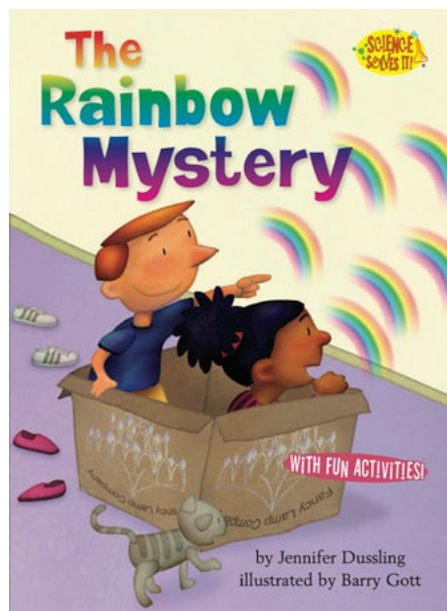
(Badan Pengembangan)

TERRITORY: World





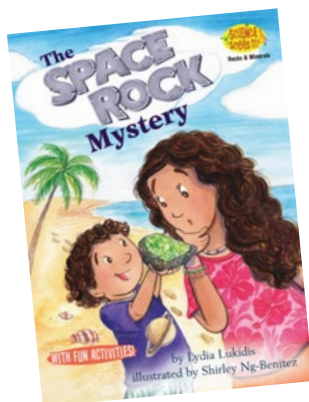
A 32-book series



Solve kid-sized dilemmas and mysteries with **SCIENCE SOLVES IT!** These fun science books for kids ages 5–8 blend clever stories with real-life science. Why did the dog turn green? Can you control a hiccup? Is that a UFO? Find the answers to these questions and more as kid characters dive into physical, life, and earth sciences.

Books in this perfect STEM series will help kids think like scientists and get ahead in the classroom. Activities and experiments are included in every book!

Life science, earth science, and physical science topics covered in this series include: Animal Tracks, Sound, Rainbows, Friction, Simple Machines, Magnets, and many more!



Over  
500,000  
Science Solves It!  
books sold in  
the U.S.

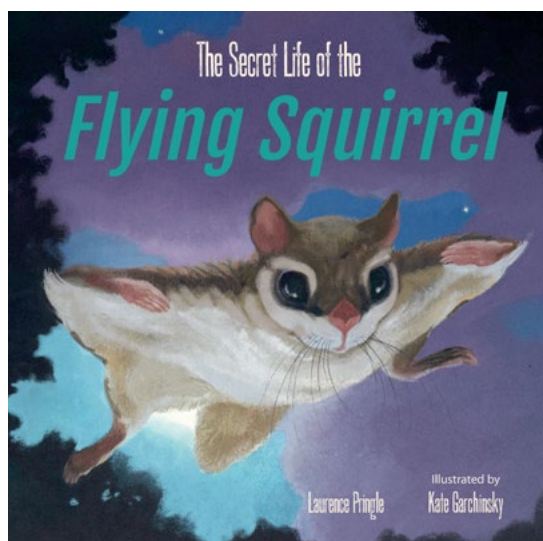
**LIFETIME SALES: OVER 500,000  
BOOKS SOLD IN THE U.S.**  
Ages 6–9  
32pp  
**RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese  
(New Buds)**  
**TERRITORY: World**

# Secret Life

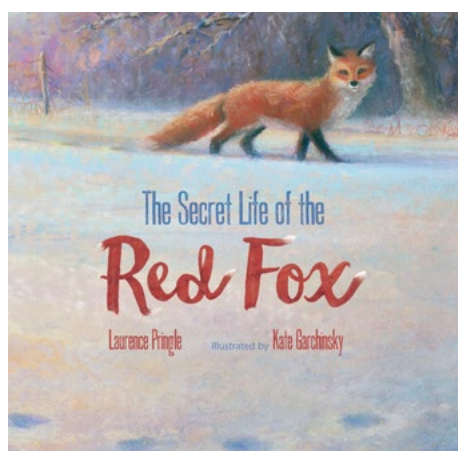
A 7-book series

by Lawrence Pringle

illustrated by Kate Garchinsky



Look for more Secret Life titles!



The Secret Life is a beautifully illustrated series of narrative nonfiction books that offer an illuminating look into the little-known daily lives of high-interest animals.

Books in the Secret Life series include: *Flying Squirrel* (new for 2023), *Little Brown Bat*, *Red Fox*, *Sea Otter* (new for 2022), *Skunk*, *Sloth*, and *Woolly Bear Caterpillar*.

★ “This intimate and personal view...is chronicled through a beautifully cohesive relationship between text and illustration. Facts and definitions are seamlessly woven into the narrative.... The art...conveys intensity and precision... (and) fuels the foxlike moments with emotion. A rich reading experience awaits those who pick up this title.” —*School Library Journal* (for *Red Fox*)



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Laurence Pringle** has written more than 100 books for children and teenagers, including the Secret Life series, among many other award-winning science titles. Internationally, his books have sold more than 3 million copies..

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Kate Garchinsky** is an illustrator of children's books and educational media. She is a fellowship recipient of the Don and Virginia Eckelberry Endowment for nature artists at the Academy of Natural Sciences. Prior to creating children's books, Kate designed toys, apps, birdbaths, and trail maps.. Visit [kategarchinsky.com](http://kategarchinsky.com)..

**ON SALE: May 31, 2022**

**Ages 6–9**

**32pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**TERRITORY: World, all languages**

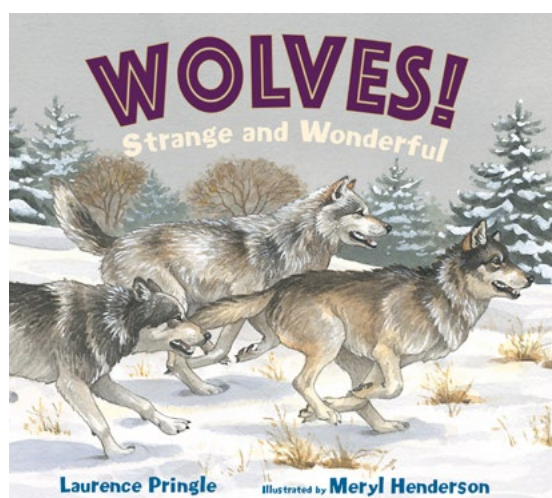


# Strange and Wonderful

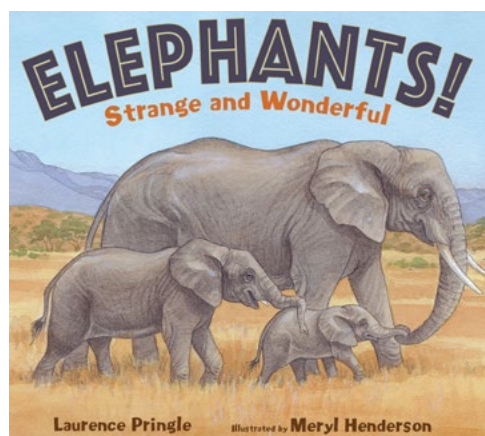
A 16-book series

by **Lawrence Pringle**

illustrated by **Meryl Henderson**



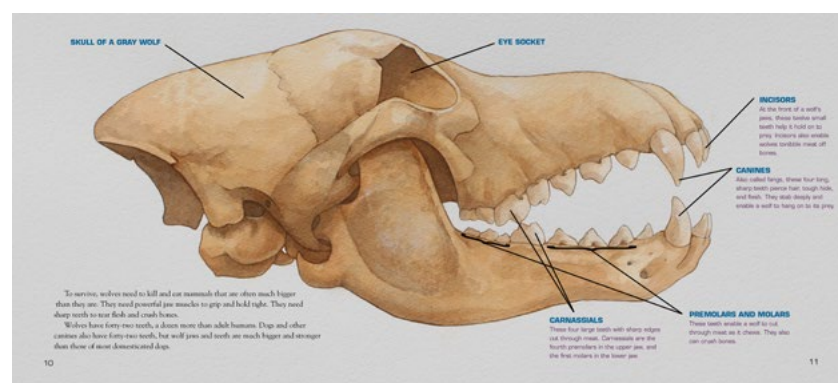
Look for more Strange and Wonderful titles!



The nonfiction Strange and Wonderful series introduces readers to animals from all over the world—including spiders, whales, sharks, owls, octopuses, and many more—through comprehensive, in-depth information, stunning artwork, and robust back matter.

Books in the Strange and Wonderful series include: *Alligators and Crocodiles!*, *Bats!*, *Cicadas!*, *Crows!*, *Dolphins!*, *Elephants!*, *Frogs!*, *Octopuses!*, *Owls!*, *Penguins!*, *Scorpions!*, *Sharks!*, *Snakes!*, *Spiders!*, *Whales!*, and *Wolves!* (new for 2022).

★ “This nonfiction picture book is packed with facts and information... This is an important and detailed inclusion for any library collection emphasizing conservation and the study of elephants.” —*School Library Journal* (for *Elephants!*)



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Lawrence Pringle** has written more than 100 books for children and teenagers, including the Secret Life series, among many other award-winning science titles. Internationally, his books have sold more than 3 million copies..

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Meryl Henderson** has illustrated numerous children's books, including all of the books in the Strange and Wonderful series.

**ON SALE: Nov. 22, 2022**  
**Ages 7-10**  
**32pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese:**  
**Mainland China (Guomai Media & Culture Co., Ltd.)**  
**TERRITORY: World, all languages**



A 12-book series



by Lewis B. Montgomery  
illustrated by Amy Wummer



The Milo & Jazz Mysteries stars two kid detectives-in-training who use STEM problem-solving skills as they race to unravel cases and save the day!

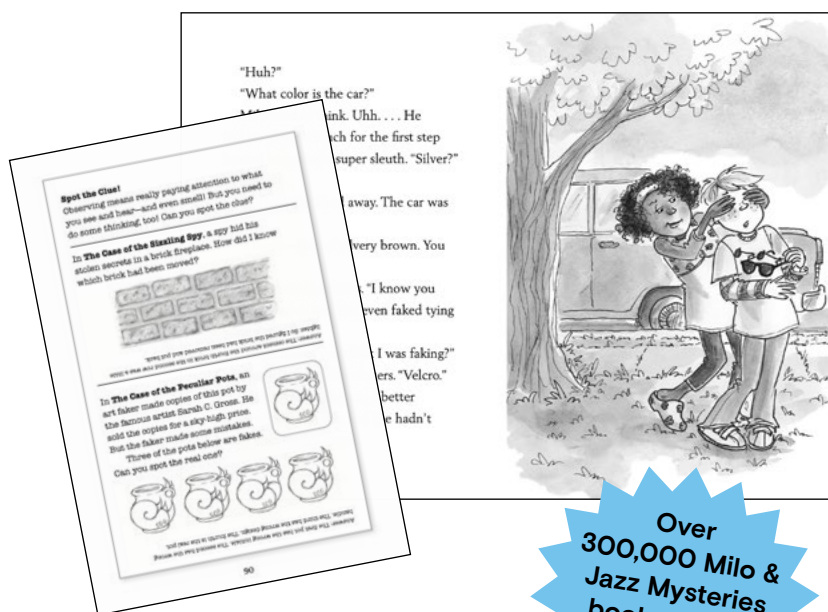
This ideal series for beginning readers making the transition to chapter books has incredible Super Sleuthing activities in each book, including hidden pictures, puzzles, mini-mysteries, and quizzes—plus free online activities in a Detective's Guide.

Problem-solving skills explored in this series include: Observing, Thinking Logically, Drawing Conclusions, Finding Patterns, Working Backward, and more!

★ *Booklist*: "Gets it just right."

*Booklist's 100 Best Children's and YA Mysteries of the Past 10 Years*

Winner of several Moonbeam Children's Book Awards and Silver Falchion Awards



Over  
300,000 Milo &  
Jazz Mysteries  
books sold in  
the U.S.!

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lewis B. Montgomery is the pen name of a writer whose favorite authors include CSL, EBW, and LMM. Those initials are a clue—but there's another clue, too. Can you figure out their names? Lewis lives in eastern Pennsylvania and also writes under the pen names Eleanor May and Nan Walker.

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Amy Wummer has illustrated more than 50 children's books. Amy and her husband, who is also an artist, live in Pennsylvania.

**LIFETIME SALES: OVER 300,000  
ON SALE: Jan. 1, 2009**

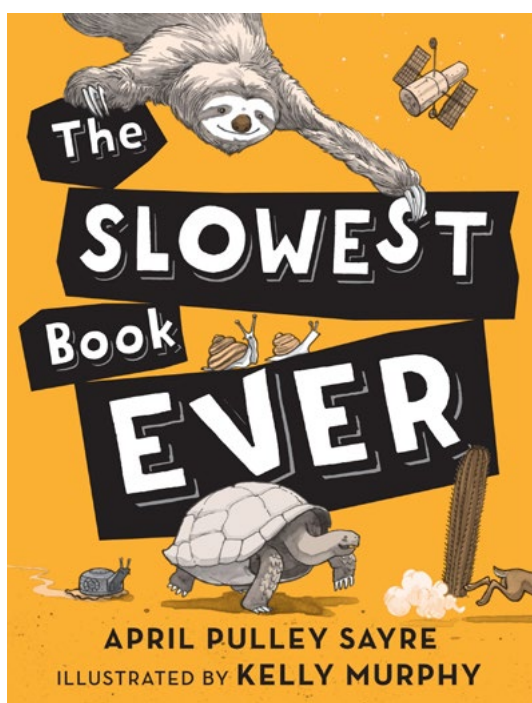
**Ages 7–11**

**96–112pp**

**RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese  
(Thinkingdom); French (Bayard;  
over 50,000 copies sold)**

**TERRITORY: World**



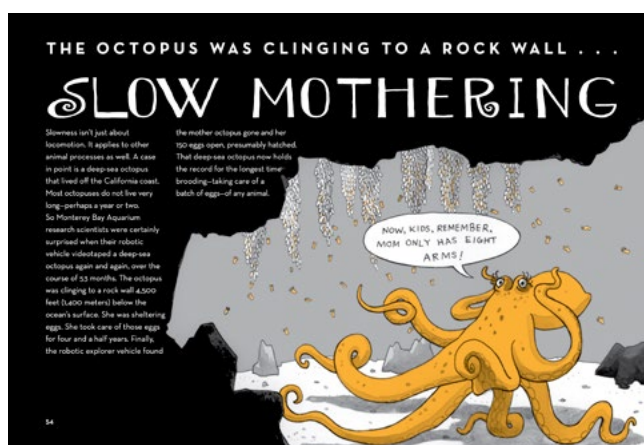


## The Slowest Book Ever

by April Pulley Sayre  
illustrated by Kelly Murphy

**“This is a S-L-O-W book. Do not read it while surfing, water skiing, or running to escape giant weasels. . .”**

April Pulley Sayre’s wry, quirky storytelling tone shines from the warning on the first page right through to the glossary at the end. In between, readers will explore an astounding variety of information about all things slow—in nature, geology, art, outer space, etc. Throughout, *The SLOWEST Book EVER* playfully encourages readers to slow down and savor everything. As Sayre shows: “If you think slowly enough, the entire world is amazing.” This innovative nonfiction work is a treasure trove of information that begs for multiple readings.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**April Pulley Sayre** is an award-winning author of over 55 natural history books for children and adults, including the popular *Rah, Rah, Radishes!*, *Stars Beneath Your Bed* (an ALA Notable Book), *Eat Like a Bea* (an ALA Notable Book), and *Vulture View* (a Geisel Honor book). Sayre and her husband live in South Bend, Indiana. Visit [aprilssayre.com](http://aprilssayre.com).

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

**Kelly Murphy** has illustrated numerous picture books and chapter books, including *Face Bug*, the New York Times Best Seller Masterpiece, and the Nathaniel Fludd, Beastologist book series. She teaches at the Rhode Island School of Design and lives in Providence, Rhode Island. Visit [kelmurphy.com](http://kelmurphy.com).

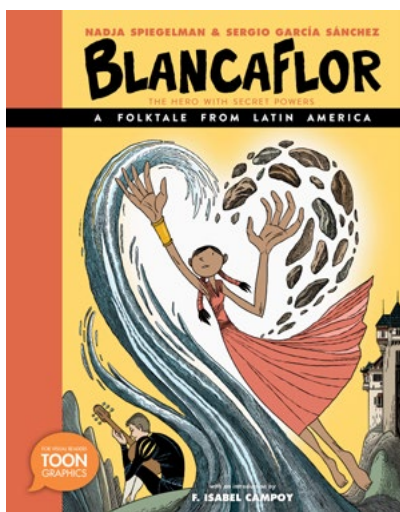
**LIFETIME SALES: 8,500**  
**Ages 8–12**  
**176pp**  
**RIGHTS SOLD: Simplified Chinese (Paradise Media), Complex Chinese (ECUS Publishing House), Russia (Abrakazyabra TERRITORY: World**



## The Dragon Slayer Folktales from Latin America

A TOON Graphic  
by Jaime Hernandez

LIFETIME SALES: 67,000  
Ages 8–12  
40pp  
RIGHTS SOLD:  
TERRITORY: World



## Blancaflor, The Hero with Secret Powers: Folktales from Latin America

A TOON Graphic  
by Nadja Spiegelman  
illustrated by  
Sergio García Sánchez

One of the New York Times Best Children's Books of 2021

A Children's Book about finally being seen. *Blancaflor*, a superb graphic storytelling of a classic Latin American folktale, showcases the invisible labor of women and the contributions of Indigenous cultures.

A damsel to the rescue! Raised by a mean ogre of a father who eats his opponents for dinner, Blancaflor is often told not to show off her own considerable powers for fear of scaring off suitors. When a prince falls from the sky and wakes up in her lap, she is spellbound and moves heaven and earth to help the endearing, yet not so clever, young man, all while trying not to let him know. With their trademark magnificent brio, Nadja Spiegelman and Sergio García Sánchez update a classic tale extolling the strength and resourcefulness of women.

A diverse story with a strong female lead that extols the strength and resourcefulness of women, while offering an imaginative retelling of a beloved folktale.

ON SALE: 2021  
Ages 8–12  
52pp  
RIGHTS SOLD:  
Spanish: Spain & Latin  
America (ECC)  
TERRITORY: World





## About Our Imprints

**Astra Young Readers** is committed to creating award-winning, high-quality fiction and nonfiction books for children of all ages. We emphasize exceptional writing, research, artistry, and innovative approaches to storytelling. We publish books that inspire compassion, open-mindedness, and the joy of discovery.

**Calkins Creek Books** introduces children to the many people, places, and events that shaped history. Our picture books, chapter books, and novels combine original and extensive research with creative, energetic writing. Our authors transport their readers back in time to recognizable places with living and breathing people.

**Hippo Park** books reflect the joyful, surprising, often befuddling, and endlessly fascinating world our children live in. Hippo Park books are fun and funny—because laughter brings people together, and it brings kids to reading! Done well, funny goes deep, too—helping kids feel seen and understood.

**Kane Press** is an award-winning publisher of illustrated STEAM and literacy titles that kids love as much as educators and parents do. Our fiction and nonfiction books for ages 3–12 feature fun stories with curriculum connections and are the perfect springboard for learning in classrooms, libraries, and homes.

**Minerva** is named for the Roman goddess who was revered as the protector of artists and artisans. Minerva is an evolution of the mineditionUS imprint and continues a publishing tradition devoted to opening children's minds and hearts to the promise and challenges of the world we share.

**TOON Books** has revolutionized the field by producing a series of award-winning comics designed specifically for readers grades K–3. The concept—to get top-notch practitioners to apply their magic to kids' comics—helped the imprint produce titles which have garnered top literary awards.

**Wordsong** is the only children's imprint in the United States specifically dedicated to poetry. We publish poetry collections for all ages in formats ranging from picture book to graphic novel to novels in verse. Words change the way we see the world, and nowhere is that truer than in poetry.