

# Holiday House Bologna 2025



# HOLIDAY HOUSE

## Bologna Rights Guide 2025

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Books for a Better Earth 

★ = starred review



Illustration from *The Mithai Box Is Not Empty* by Namrita Agarwal, art by Parvati Pillai, see page 12.

# Fiction Picture Books





SAMPLE ART



Ages 4-8  
48 pages • 9 x 10  
January 6, 2026

Full interior available: May.

## BORED!

BY FELICITA SALA

*A very bored girl is struck by inspiration in this clever story from much-loved creator Felicita Sala.*

Rita is bored. She's tried stretching her body across her bedroom, side-eyeing herself in the mirror, stomping her feet and swinging her arms. Her mind drifts to a daydream. What if the bored people in the world gathered together and got onto a bus? What if the boredom filled them up like balloons? What if they floated into the sky, bobbing along? By the time Rita's mother calls her for dinner, she's very busy.

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

**FELICITA SALA** is the author and illustrator of *If You Run Out of Words*, *What's Cooking at 10 Garden Street?*, *What's Cooking in Flowerville?*, and *Lunch at 10 Pomegranate Street*, which has been translated into ten languages. She is the illustrator of the Society of Illustrators Gold Medal book *As Night Falls* and the *New York Times*/*New York Public Library* Best Illustrated Children's Book *She Made a Monster*. She is also a recipient of the Premio Andersen (the Andersen Prize).



COVER NOT FINAL

Ages 3-7  
32 pages • 10 x 10  
March 3, 2026

## BROCCOLI IS TRYING TO KILL ME!

BY KATIE EVANS, ART BY SAVANNAH ALLEN

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

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

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

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

Take a bite out of this giggle-worthy picture book with whimsical illustrations, perfect for picky eaters and veggie fans alike.

**KATIE EVANS** is the mother of a vegetable-adverse kid, as well as a former newspaper and magazine writer. *Broccoli Is Trying to Kill Me* is her picture book debut.

**SAVANNAH ALLEN** is the author/illustrator of picture book *The Nature Journal*, and the illustrator of the *Sprinkles & Swirls* young graphic novel series.



SAMPLE ART

NP

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 9 x 10  
April 7, 2026

## GOOD MORNING, MORNING

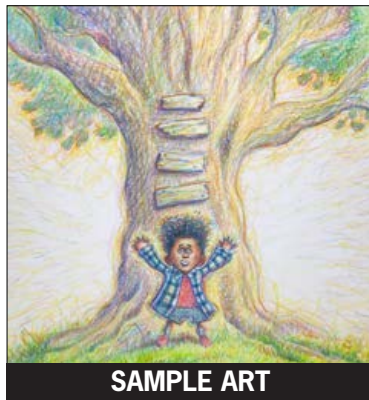
BY MAYA MYERS, ART BY JENNIFER K. MANN

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

Just before daybreak, a boy steps outside to plant feet on the ground. Though it's quiet, there's so much sensory magic to see and feel and hear: spiderwebs rippling in the grass; birdsong in the air; wet dew and spiky pine needles to walk through. Modeling mindfulness, the boy breathes in the still-sleepy world. But when the sun's warm rays arrive, it's time to run and jump and cartwheel! GOOD MORNING, MORNING!

MAYA MYERS is the author of *Not Little* and *Not Perfect*, both illustrated by Hyewon Yum.

JENNIFER K. MANN is the author and illustrator of *The Camping Trip*, a *Bank Street* Best Children's Book of the Year and an SCBWI Golden Kite Award finalist. She is also the illustrator of *Maple and Rosemary* and *Climbing the Volcano*.



SAMPLE ART

NP

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 9  
February 17, 2026

## IF THIS WERE THE WORLD

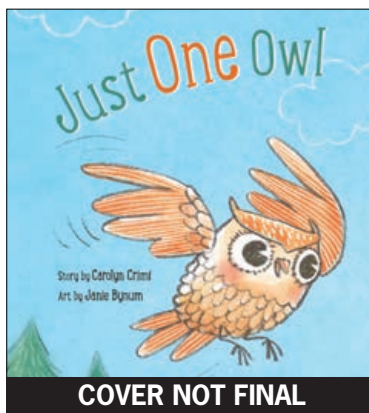
BY STEPHEN BARR, ART BY AG FORD

*Recess is wholly transformed as Ms. Lee's class hunts for an object that would make the best "world."*

The orange world is tasty, but too small to share. A dodgeball world can be punted to outer space by a mean older kid. Imaginations have never been so alive, but no perfect world turns up, and the kids' search is leaving a trail of litter and destruction. Maybe there is only one world that ticks the boxes... and maybe it's time to treat it a little better. With a cast of big personalities and a hearty helping of witty banter, *If This Were the World* reads like recess, with a well-earned nod to our planet and the work of protecting it.

STEPHEN BARR made his picture book debut with *The Upside Down Hat*, which the *New York Times* named a Best Illustrated book of the year.

AG FORD is a *New York Times* bestselling children's book illustrator and recipient of two NAACP Image Awards. Ford has illustrated picture books for Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Sharon Robinson, Martin Luther King III, and Nick Cannon, among others.



COVER NOT FINAL



Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 8 x 10  
October 28, 2025

## JUST ONE OWL

BY CAROLYN CRIMI, ART BY JANIE BYNUM

*An easy-to-read story about making friends, featuring a wide-eyed owl and other adorable woodland animals.*

Owl searches the forest for a friend. But when an unlikely prospect shares its tree, Owl discovers his perfect companion—a bat! A simple story with endearing, kid-friendly illustrations.

CAROLYN CRIMI is the author of *There Might Be Lobsters*, winner of the 2018 Golden Kite Award.

JANIE BYNUM the illustrator of *Otis*, a Junior Library Selection, and *Chick Chat*, which has been published in four languages.



Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 11 x 8<sup>1/2</sup>  
April 21, 2026

Full interior available: March.

## THANK YOU, SCHOOL

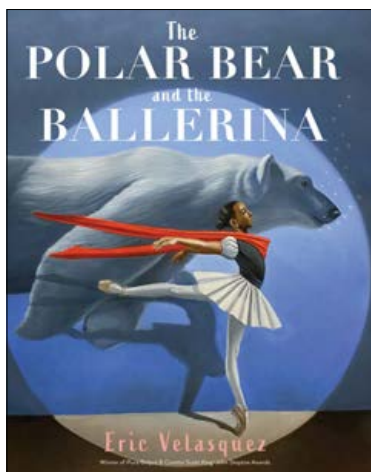
BY LOUISE BORDEN

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

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

*Thank You, School* celebrates the unsung heroes in children's lives and is perfect for starting conversations about gratitude.

**LOUISE BORDEN** is the recipient of a Christopher Award and a Sydney Taylor Award. Her books include *The Journey That Saved Curious George*, *America IS...*, *Off to First Grade*, and more.



Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 8<sup>1/2</sup> x 11  
October 7, 2025  
Gatefold

See page 9 of the backlist guide for more titles by Velasquez.

## THE POLAR BEAR AND THE BALLERINA

BY ERIC VELASQUEZ

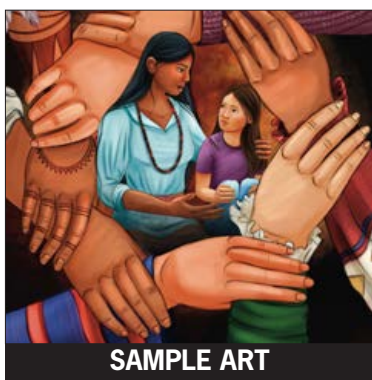
*How does a bear go to the ballet? A polar bear escapes the zoo and ventures through the city in this heartfelt wordless picture book from award-winning Afro-Latino artist Eric Velasquez.*

When dancers have a photoshoot at the zoo, a young ballerina and a polar bear form a special friendship. When his new friend leaves her scarf behind, the polar bear must venture into the city to return it before her performance. However, the theatergoers eye the strange bear with suspicion. When the ushers won't let him inside, the ballerina comes to his rescue and welcomes him in. The polar bear has dreamed of seeing the ballet, and now he gets to be a part of it in the most surprising way.

A wordless story of unlikely friendship that celebrates art and its ability to connect us, this picture book also opens a conversation about alienation and empathy. Who is kept out of the theater? How can we welcome them in? Eric Velasquez brings a dream-like magic to this tale of empathy and kindred spirits.

**ERIC VELASQUEZ's** awards include the Coretta Scott King Award for new talent, a Pura Belpré Award, an NAACP Image Award, and a Carter G. Woodson Award. For Holiday House, he both wrote and illustrated *Looking for Bongo*, and illustrated *Ol' Clip-Clap: A Ghost Story* by Patricia C. McKissack and *New Shoes* by Susan Lynn Meyer.





SAMPLE ART

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 10 x 8  
March 17, 2026

See page X for another title by Reno.

Full interior available: March.

## SPIRIT SHADOW

BY GINGER RENO, ART BY MARY LUPTON

*A story about the power of our ancestors and the way our heritage guides and shapes us, even if we don't know it yet.*

Since birth, Willa has had a shadow that stays beside her, always just out of reach. Until Mom and Willa visit a replica of an ancient Cherokee village. It's here, among daub houses and brown hands crafting, that Willa realizes that Spirit is her ancestors, beckoning her to claim her Cherokee heritage. Debut illustrator Mary Lupton lovingly includes nods to Cherokee beadwork and weaving. The book ends with a moving conclusion for children to embrace their own ancestors.

GINGER RENO is the author of *Find Her*. She is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation.

MARY LUPTON is an illustrator and also a citizen of the Cherokee Nation.



SAMPLE ART

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 10 x 8  
February 24, 2026

## SUN, MOON, AND STARS

BY NANCY SO MILLER

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

When Eomma goes to market she has one rule for her daughters: don't open the door. But when there's a knock at the door, the girls jump to open it, believing it is Eomma. Except at the door is a hungry tiger. Now the sisters must work together to save themselves.

Debut author-illustrator Nancy So Miller retells this centuries-old Korean tale on the origin of the sun, moon, and stars with her diorama art. Fresh additions to the story include themes of sisterhood, Korean astronomy, and a sweet bedtime ending.

NANCY SO MILLER is a debut author-illustrator with 11 years of experience as an art teacher.



SAMPLE ART

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 10 x 8  
March 17, 2026

## I AM A BON DANCER

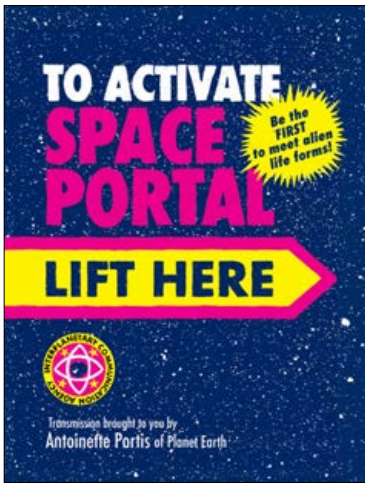
BY BRANDI-ANN UYEMURA, ART BY AMY MATSUSHITA-BEAL

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

It's a young Japanese-American girl's first time at the "Festival of Souls." It's just like her grandfather described. But Grandpa Jo didn't tell her that everyone else already knew how to dance! She wishes she could dance, but she can't bring herself to try... until Grandpa Jo encourages her to remember the meaning of the Obon Festival and to imagine her beloved Grandma Nat dancing along with her.

BRANDI-ANN UYEMURA is a fifth-generation Japanese American (gosei) from Hawaii. This is her debut children's book.

AMY MATSUSHITA-BEAL is a freelance illustrator and hand-letterer based in Tokyo. They were born and raised in the US and graduated from Art Center College of Design. 7



NP

Ages 4-8  
56 pages • 8 x 11  
October 7, 2025

See page 20 of the backlist guide for more titles by Portis.

**Rights Sales:**

**BritComm/Pending**  
**French/Genévrier**

## TO ACTIVATE SPACE PORTAL LIFT HERE

BY ANTOINETTE PORTIS

*This book is an interstellar portal, and the aliens inside want to meet you!*

Before you lift the cover, be sure you're ready to meet Zrk and Blrg. They're not so different from you—but to them, you're the alien!

After their initial shock at seeing you through the portal, they're eager to see what kind of teeth you have, compare home planets, and maybe team up for a prank. You met as aliens, but by the time the portal closes, maybe you'll be friends.

*To Activate Space Portal Lift Here* is an interactive treat sure to delight young galactic explorers. Antoinette Portis's bright lines and bold colors pair perfectly with humor that also offers a subtle message of acceptance. Whether for bedtime or circle time, this is a portal you'll want to open!

**ANTOINETTE PORTIS** is the author of many inventive books for children, including *Not a Box, Hey, Water!*, *A New Green Day*, and *A Seed Grows*. Her work has received a Sibert Honor and two Geisel Honors, as well as multiple Best Book of the Year designations.



MF

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 9<sup>1/2</sup>  
September 2, 2025

See pages 13 & 17 of the backlist guide for more titles by Hare.

**Rights Sales:**

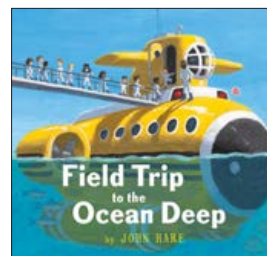
**French/Pastel/L'ecole**  
**German/Moritz**

## FIELD TRIP TO DINOSAUR VALLEY

BY JOHN HARE

*Blast into the Jurassic past in this new wordless picture book in the Field Trip Adventures series by award-winning creator John Hare.*

This class is going to see dinosaurs up close—maybe way too close! When a pterodactyl snatches a student's lunch box, the student gives chase and gets it back but also becomes separated from their class. They decide to eat their lunch while waiting to be rescued and end up sharing it with friendly dinosaurs. But when the dinosaurs suddenly disappear, the student is left face to face with a gigantic carnivore! Fortunately there is a surprise rescue and the student safely makes it back to the time travel bus.

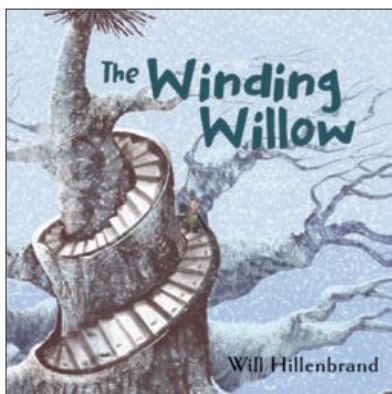


**BritComm/Macmillan UK (1) • Bulgarian/Helikon (1 - 3) • Chinese Simplified/TGM (2 & 3) •**

**Chinese Traditional/Rye Field (1 - 3) • Dutch/Lannoo (1) • French/Pastel (1 - 4) • German/Moritz (1 - 4) • Greek/Ikaros (1) • Italian/Babalibri (1 - 3) • Japanese/Asunaro (1 - 3) • Korean/Touch Art (1 - 3) • Portuguese (Brazil)/Raposa Vermelha (1 & 2) • Spanish/Oceano (1) • Turkish/Yapi Kredi (1 & 2)**

**JOHN HARE** is the creator of the Field Trip Adventures Series. He also wrote and illustrated *Plus One*.





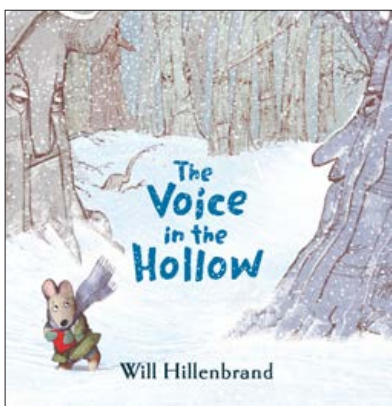
Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 10  
September 9, 2025  
Double gatefold

## THE WINDING WILLOW

BY WILL HILLENBRAND

*Join brave young mouse Hubert Cumberbun on a fantastical wintertime adventure in this epic companion to The Voice in the Hollow.*

Hubert Cumberbun is on his way home. Wind obscures his path. Shadows flicker. And Hubert finds a mysterious willow tree, filled with enticing lost treasures. There's his brother's runaway shoe! His father's umbrella! The key to their house! Now, Hubert will have to brave the surreal snowy landscape and a hungry owl to bring his found trinkets home. Holding on tight to his umbrella, he soars above the wintery world below... and makes it back in time to share a delicious loaf of cinnamon bread with his family.



Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 10  
October 3, 2023  
Double gatefold

## THE VOICE IN THE HOLLOW

BY WILL HILLENBRAND

★ 5 starred reviews!

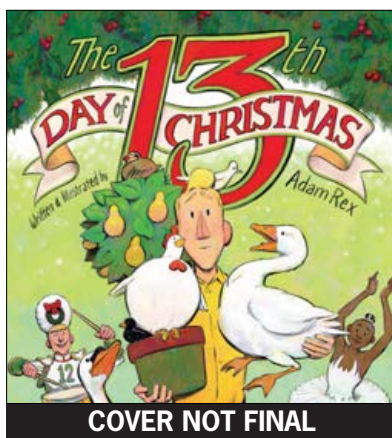
A Kirkus Reviews Best Picture Book of the Year • A BCCB Blue Ribbon Book

When a blizzard closes the library early, Hubert decides to take a shortcut home through the spooky Hollow. Another mouse appears and offers to take his hand. Together, they journey through the snow, over fallen trees and over the mountains. Just as Hubert is reaching his destination he turns to find his guide gone. Hubert races home to tell his family about his wild adventure through the Hollow.

Rights Sales: Korean/Woongjin

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**WILL HILLENBRAND** is the recipient of an ALA Notable Book Award and multiple IRA Children's Choice Awards. He is the author and illustrator of the Bear and Mole series.

See pages 16 and 26 of this guide and page 17 of the  
backlist guide for more titles by Hillenbrand.



NP  
Ages 5-8  
48 pages • 10 x 10  
September 9, 2025

## THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS

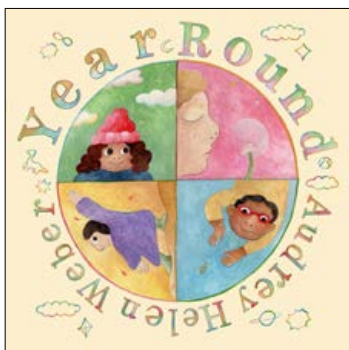
BY ADAM REX

*A partridge in a pear tree? Ten lords a-leaping? Who would want such gifts? And more importantly—why would they be given?*

Adam Rex investigates in this hilariously heart-warming tale based on the beloved Christmas carol. Our hero is having a lonesome Christmas away from his true love. So when she sends him a gift, of course he loves it—even if a partridge in a pear tree wasn't exactly on his wishlist. But twelve days later, his home is crowded with more birds, milkmaids, pipers, and more. Why would his true love think he'd like this?!

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**ADAM REX** is the author and illustrator of *New York Times* bestselling picture books like *Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich* and *School's First Day of School*. His work has been adapted for film and television. He is also the author of *Tumblebaby*.

See page 9 of the backlist guide for another title by Rex.



Ages 4-8

**NP** 48 pages • 10 x 10

**October 14, 2025**

See page 9 of the backlist guide for another title by Weber.

## YEAR ROUND

BY AUDREY HELEN WEBER

*Explore winter questions, spring feelings, summer wishes and fall thoughts in Audrey Helen Weber's funky, joyous Year Round.*

Audrey Helen Weber's retro-feel artwork dazzles with textured, vivid colors in this child-centric escapade through the seasons of the year. Playful stream-of-consciousness text perfectly captures the many feelings associated with each season. Whether your youngster has a philosophical streak, or can't wait for their favorite season to come, they'll see themselves in the pages of *Year Round*.

**AUDREY HELEN WEBER** is the creator of *On the Day the Horse Got Out* and *The Wind & the Clover*, and the illustrator of Adam Rex's *Tumblebaby*. Their artwork has appeared in the *New York Times Book Review* and the *New Yorker* online.



**SAMPLE ART**

Ages 2-5

**NP** 32 pages • 10 x 10

**September 2, 2025**

See page 11 of the backlist guide for more titles by Morales.

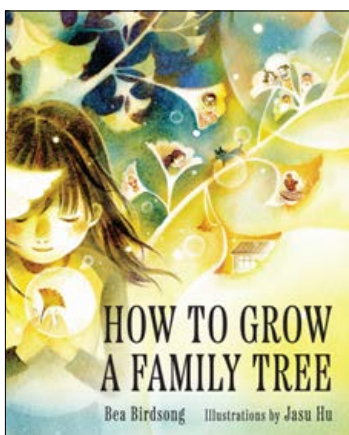
## LITTLE REBELS

BY YUYI MORALES

*Do you know a little rebel? Do you want to be a rebel, too? A powerful new picture book from Caldecott Honoree Yuyi Morales.*

Little rebels ask questions. They use language to shape the world, and when no words are right, they make up new ones. They imagine, trust their intuition, and aren't ashamed to change their minds. When three youngsters find a bird friend that is trapped in a riverbed, the little rebels call on ancestors to show them what to do. Nobody gets left behind. *Little Rebels* is as bold and spirited as the young trailblazers it chronicles.

**YUYI MORALES** is a Caldecott Honoree and a repeated winner of the prestigious Pura Belpré Medal for Illustration. Her titles include *Dreamers* (A *New York Times* bestseller), *Niño Wrestles the World*, *Viva Frida*, and *Bright Star*.



Ages 4-8

**NP** 48 pages • 9 x 11

**November 4, 2025**

See page 12 of the backlist guide for more titles by Hu.

## HOW TO GROW A FAMILY TREE

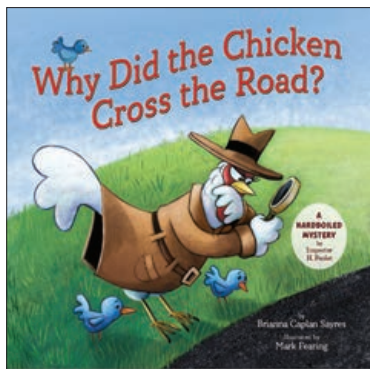
BY BEA BIRDSONG, ART BY JASU HU

*A girl stresses over her heritage-mapping school assignment, until she realizes family is all around—her neighbors and friends.*

All week, Emmylou's classmates present their beautiful, large family trees. Emmylou's tree is almost bare. There's her, Mama, and the names Mama won't say—the stories she doesn't tell. She doesn't have cousins—only Rosa next door that watches her after school. No siblings—only Rosa's baby twins that Emmylou plays with. No one to teach her to ride a bike—only Mr. Li, who doesn't complain when she runs over his foot. Finally, Emmylou knows what to tell her class. Her family isn't so small—she just had to look for it.

**BEA BIRDSONG** is the author of *I Will Be Fierce*, *Sam's First Word* and *How to Spot a Best Friend*.

**JASU HU** is the illustrator of *All You Need* by Howard Schwartz, and *Wintergarden* by Janet Fox. She worked as an illustrator in China for six years prior to moving to New York.



Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 10 x 10  
September 16, 2025

See page 36 of the  
backlist guide for more  
titles by Fearing.

## WHY DID THE CHICKEN CROSS THE ROAD?

A HARDBOILED MYSTERY

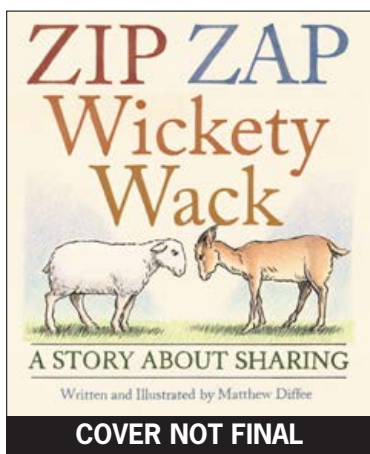
BY BRIANNA CAPLAN SAYRES, ART BY MARK FEARING

*A barnyard mystery takes on a noir-esque spin in this hilarious picture book perfect for fans of 7 Ate 9 and Interrupting Chicken.*

The Chicken has crossed the road, and no one knows why. Can Inspector H. Poulet get to the bottom of it? Squawking from one unhelpful clue to the next, H. Poulet follows The Chicken's path around the farm. In the end, the mystery resolves itself with a twist: a surprise birthday party awaits the Inspector on the other side of the road. The animals flock together for a barnyard bash, and the Inspector retains her eggcellent reputation—despite having missed all evidence of the party.

**BRIANNA CAPLAN SAYRES** is the best-selling author of the Where Do... series. Her debut picture book, *Where Do Diggers Sleep at Night?*, has sold over a million copies.

**MARK FEARING** is the illustrator of The Middle School Bites series by Steven Banks, *The Three Little Aliens and the Big Bad Robot*, and *Ben Franklin's in My Bathroom!*



Ages 4-8  
48 pages • 9 x 10  
September 30, 2025

## ZIP ZAP WICKETY WACK

A STORY ABOUT SHARING

BY MATTHEW DIFFEE

*New Yorker cartoonist Matthew Diffee's hilarious wit will be an immediate hit with young readers in his first picture book.*

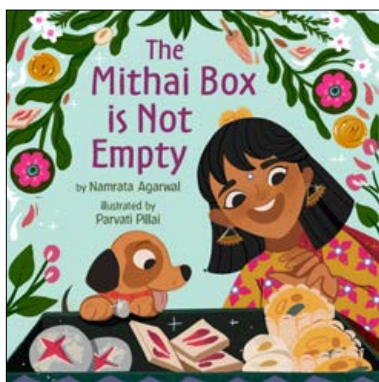
The cow says “moo,” the horse says “neigh,” the sheep says “baa,” and the goat also says “baa?” Now what? No one wants to share their sound!

The sheep has an idea—he'll just say something no one's ever said before: “zip zap wickety wack bing bang walla balla flip flap yackety yack.” But an otherworldly visitor shows up to lay claim to this sound, too—and the alien doesn't want to share his identity either. When the alien proposes a radical new way forward, the sheep and the goat find a compromise—and it may sound familiar to adult readers . . .

Threaded with a sneaky message about sharing, *Zip Zap Wickety Wack* will inspire new nonsense and new values.

**MATTHEW DIFFEE's** widely acclaimed cartoons in *The New Yorker* garnered him the Silver Reuben award for best single panel cartoonist of the year. His work has also appeared in *Time* and *The Huffington Post*, among others. This is his first book for kids.





Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 10 x 10  
September 23, 2025

## THE MITHAI BOX IS NOT EMPTY

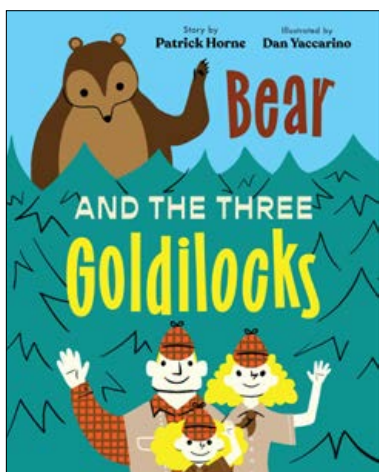
BY NAMRITA AGARWAL, ART BY PARVATI PILLAI

*This delicious, sweet picture book celebrates the joys of sharing. . . and delectable Indian desserts!*

Ria wants to be the best chai party host to impress her grandparents. She even shares her precious mithai box of her favorite sweet, motichoor laddoo, with the whole family. As the laddoo disappears, she worries that there will be none left for her. But her grandmother has a surprise... one last motichoor laddoo! *The Mithai Box Is Not Empty* celebrates the joys of generosity, but reminds us not to forget our own happiness. An author's note on mithais and a matching mithai game are included in the back of the book.

**NAMRITA AGARWAL** is a writer for children's magazines. This is her debut.

**PARVATI PILLAI** is the illustrator of *The Runaway Dosa* and *Bindu's Bindis*.



Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 8 x 10  
July 1, 2025

## BEAR AND THE THREE GOLDILOCKS

BY PATRICK HORNE, ART BY DAN YACCARINO

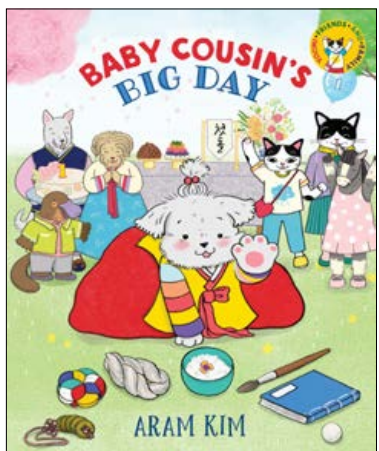
*You'll laugh out loud at this funny fractured folktale with illustrations by an award-winning artist!*

Fans of folk tales will be delighted by this contemporary, spunky revival of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. In this version, it's the bear who wreaks havoc on the Goldilocks' belongings—by eating all of their food and smashing their campsite to pieces. Mama and Papa Bear arrive and try to apologize to the Goldilocks family, but only wind up scaring them away. Perfect for kids who love sharing silly stories around the campfire.

**PATRICK HORNE** is a debut author who loves bringing humor to heartfelt stories about the everyday experiences that kids encounter.

**DAN YACCARINO** is the illustrator of *Every Friday*, a Bologna Ragazzi Honorable Mention and a *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book and the Big Jobs, Bold Women series.

See page 18 of the backlist guide for more titles by Yaccarino.



Ages 4-8 • 40 pages • 8 x 10  
July 22, 2025

## BABY COUSIN'S BIG DAY

BY ARAM KIM

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

The whole family is gathering to celebrate baby cousin's 1st birthday. They will do the doljabi ceremony, where baby Dasom will select an object that represents her future. If she picks a ball, she will be an athlete. If she picks a paintbrush, she will be an artist. But Yoomi is worried—what if Dasom doesn't grow up to like her choice? Then baby Dasom's choice surprises everyone. She picks Yoomi!

**ARAM KIM** spent her childhood in South Korea, and now lives in NYC. Her books include the Yoomi Friends and Family series and *Cat on the Bus*.

See page 16 of the backlist guide for more titles by Kim.



## ISLAND STORM

BY BRIAN FLOCA, ART BY SYDNEY SMITH

*In Caldecott Medalist Brian Floca and Kate Greenaway Medalist Sydney Smith's thrilling collaboration, experience the sheer power of a violent thunderstorm and the calm of its aftermath.*

**Rights Sales:**

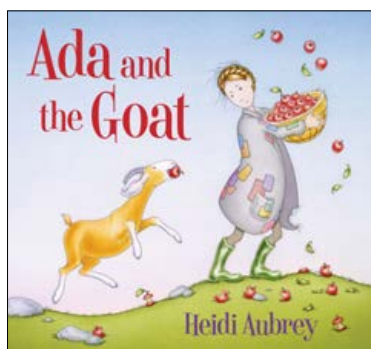
**BritComm/Pending • Chinese Simplified/Beijing Cheerful • Chinese Traditional/Gleaner • Dutch/Querido • French/Didier Jeunesse • French (NA)/Comme des géants • Italian/Orecchio Acerbo • Japanese/Kaiseisha • Korean/Bear Books • Turkish/Ilksatir**

NP

Ages 4-8 • 48 pages  
8 x 11 • July 22, 2025



**SYDNEY SMITH** is the author and illustrator of *Do You Remember?* and *Small in the City*, which received a silver medal from the Society of Illustrators, and is the illustrator of *My Baba's Garden* and *I Talk Like a River*. He is a recipient of the prestigious Hans Christian Andersen Award, two Governor General's Awards for Illustrated Children's Books, and four *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year citations.



## ADA AND THE GOAT

BY HEIDI AUBREY

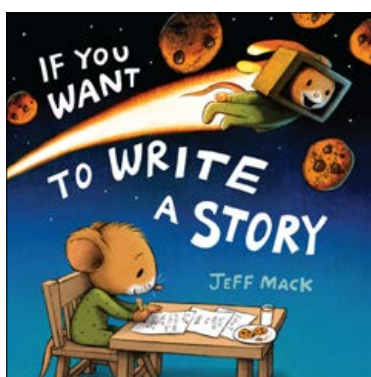
*Ada doesn't need the goat. She doesn't want the goat.  
So why isn't she happy when it leaves?*

When Ada leaves town and moves into a fixer-upper cottage on a hill, she can't wait to settle into her new life. Yet Ada's plans are soon dashed by a troublesome goat that hangs around long after she frees it from a fence. Its antics undo her new life piece by piece, until Ada snaps and sends the goat on its way. Never again will it sleep on her porch... or nibble on her gray coat. And suddenly, Ada isn't so glad.

NP

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 9<sup>1/2</sup>  
August 5, 2025

**HEIDI AUBREY** is a debut author-illustrator.



## IF YOU WANT TO WRITE A STORY

BY JEFF MACK

*Crafting a great story can be as fun as reading one with  
this action-packed introduction to fiction writing.*

Award-winning creator Jeff Mack shares an exciting narrative featuring space travel and perilous alien adventures, while also demonstrating the storytelling process itself. As each story beat unfolds, the narrator shares a new tool in the fiction writer's kit: how to add excitement, overcome feelings of discouragement, and explore new directions.

NP

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 10  
July 15, 2025

**Rights Sales:** Chinese Traditional/Global Kids

**JEFF MACK** is the creator of *Hush Little Polar Bear*, *Duck in the Fridge*, *Just a Story*, and *Scaredy Cats*. He has also illustrated award-winning books such as Eve Bunting's *Hurry!* and James Howe's *Bunnicula* and *Friends* series.



**NP** Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 9 x 11  
July 22, 2025

## THE MOVING BOOK

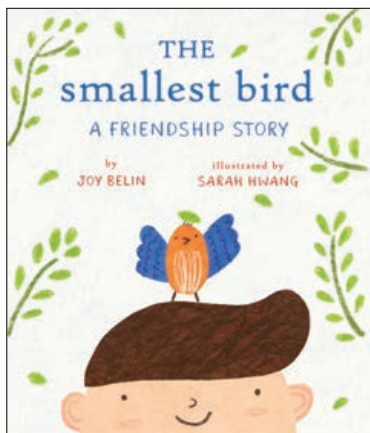
BY LISA BROWN

"This book is both informative and bighearted—packed with logistical details about moving but sensitive to all the ineffable, emotional stuff that accompanies a big change."—*Mac Barnett, New York Times bestselling author*

Moving can be sad and scary—but it doesn't have to be. The kids in this book have done it many times, as the brother reminds his sister. They reflect on favorite memories from each of their past homes, and the boy talks her through all the steps to expect, from taping up boxes to packing the moving truck. With clear text and detail-rich illustrations, *The Moving Book* is the perfect resource for any family preparing for a move.

**Rights Sales:** Dutch/Schoolsupport

See page 4 of the backlist guide for another title by Brown.



**MF** Ages 3-7  
32 pages • 8 x 9<sup>1/2</sup>  
June 3, 2025

## THE SMALLEST BIRD

A FRIENDSHIP STORY

BY JOY BELIN, ART BY SARAH HWANG

*A whimsical explanation of how to make friends with a bird that is sure to delight young nature lovers.*

To make friends with the smallest bird, do all the things that any good friend would do: Show him your secret tree house. Give him snacks. And if you think he's ready, reach out to see if he'll let you hold him. You'll need to keep your hand open so he can fly away as all birds do—but don't worry, he will always come back to visit.

**JOY BELIN** has worked as a teacher and for the U.S. Department of Education.

**SARAH HWANG** is the author-illustrator of *Toasty*.

See page 7 of the backlist guide for another title by Hwang.



**NP** Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 10 x 10  
August 26, 2025

## BEFORE I LIVED HERE

BY STACY S. JENSEN, ART BY VICTO NGAI

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

The building you live in has probably been around longer than you, but a whole lot happened before your house was built. Follow along as a boy peels away each layer of the history of his house, from the construction of his neighborhood, to the log cabins that predated it... all the way back to the time of the dinosaurs. *Before I Lived Here* reminds us that history isn't something that happens far away—it's in our own backyards.

**STACY S. JENSEN** is a former journalist. This is her debut.

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



Ages 6-8  
40 pages • 9 x 11  
June 3, 2025

## THE MEMORY CAKE

BY CAROLINE L. PERRY, ART BY JENNIFER BRICKING

*A grandmother remembers when she found hope while living in a land under siege in this story about survival, hope, and the children of Malta during World War II.*

Every year, a girl visits her Nanna on the isle of Malta and they bake a special cake. Nanna shares that when she was a girl, they baked this cake to celebrate the end of their small country's occupation during WWII. As the two prepare each step of the recipe, Nanna shares about the bombs, the shelters, the hunger, and the hope that kept them all alive.

CAROLINE L. PERRY's books include *The Corgi and the Queen* illustrated by Lydia Corry and *I Am Not Happy!*, illustrated by Syndey Hanson.

JENNIFER BRICKING is the illustrator of *Ten Magic Butterflies*.



Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 8  
May 6, 2025

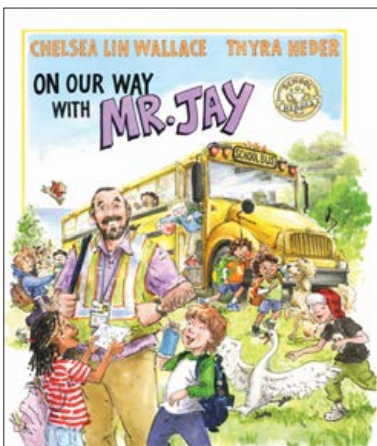
## FRIDAYS ARE FOR CHURROS

BY JENNY ALVARADO

*A girl and her dad move to a new town, but she's determined to keep their traditions, no matter how busy Daddy is!*

Every Friday, Emi and her Papi made churros for the entire familia. Now in their new apartment in the big city, Papi is always working, and there are no churros, and no familia. Until Emi smells something delicious coming from her neighbor Señora Luisa's apartment. Maybe she can make churros after all, with a little help. Soon Emi's apartment is filled with the scent of fresh churros and new friends!

JENNY ALVARADO is the author and illustrator of the picture book *Agent Unicorn* and the early graphic novel series *Pencil & Eraser*.



NP  
Ages 4-8  
48 pages • 9 x 11  
July 29, 2025

## ON OUR WAY WITH MR. JAY

BY CHELSEA LIN WALLACE, ART BY THYRA HEDER

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

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

CHELSEA LIN WALLACE is the author of *Ode to a Bad Day*, *The Boo-Boos of Bluebell Elementary*, and *Dare to be Daring*.

THYRA HEDER is the author and illustrator of *Fraidyzoo*, *The Bear Report*, *Alfie*, *How Do You Dance?*, and *Sal Boat*.



*Father and child become buzzing bees, rustling trees, and more in this delightful make-believe romp from Caldecott Honor winner Shawn Harris.*



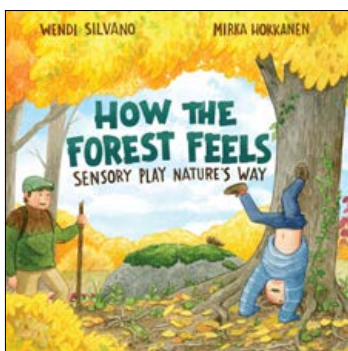
Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 9 x 9  
February 11, 2025

★ "Harris' ability to connect with children on their own level, while also being unafraid to get a little weird in the process, brings to mind such superb titles as Margaret Wise Brown's *Goodnight Moon*."—*Kirkus Reviews*

★ "In a sly, self-referential twist, the book the pair is reading—*Let's Be Bees*—invites the audience into mimicry not just of the natural world but of the characters themselves."—*Publishers Weekly*

**Rights Sales:**

**BritComm/Walker • Italian/Terre di Mezzo**

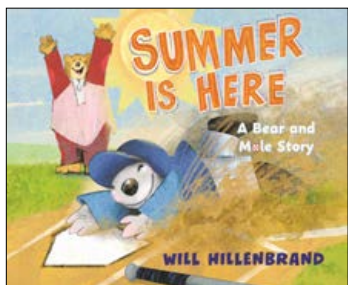


*Forest school meets sensory play in this cozy story about an exploratory walk through the woods.*

Ages 3-6  
40 pages • 9<sup>1/2</sup> x 9<sup>1/2</sup>  
August 5, 2025

A boy and his grandfather travel through a scenic forest. Everywhere they look, there are fascinating things to see and feel. The boy is naturally curious... and in the woods, it's okay to touch! Some things are sticky. Some are coarse. The boy delights in using his senses to explore the natural world. This story is just right for kids who learn by doing. Backmatter features an author's note about the five senses, as well as an interactive sensory treasure hunt.

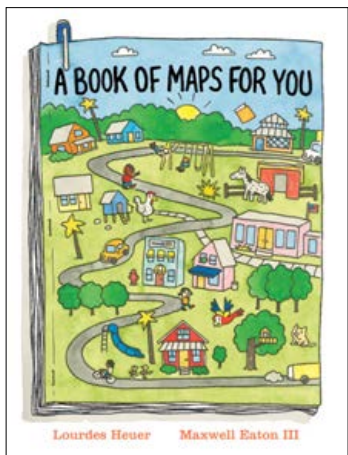
See page 53 for more titles by Hokkanen.



Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 11 x 9  
May 27, 2025

Finally, summer is here for Bear and Mole! Baseball-loving Mole suits up and hustles to the baseball diamond for a game with his best friend Bear. Mole is ready to play, and he's swinging for the fences! It's a swing and... a miss? Mole grits his teeth, and swings—still, it's like he can't even see the plate! But with the gentle support of his friend Bear and a new pair of glasses, Mole is ready to play all summer long.

See page 17 of the backlist guide for the entire Bear and Mole Series.



*Before moving away, a young cartographer leaves some guidance behind about his old home for the child about to make it their new one.*



Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 8<sup>1/2</sup> x 11  
April 8, 2025

★ "Eaton's cartoon artwork deftly homes in on humorous details, then steps back for a concluding shot of a youngster reading this book, seen from behind, bringing this original take on moving to a simple yet touching finale.

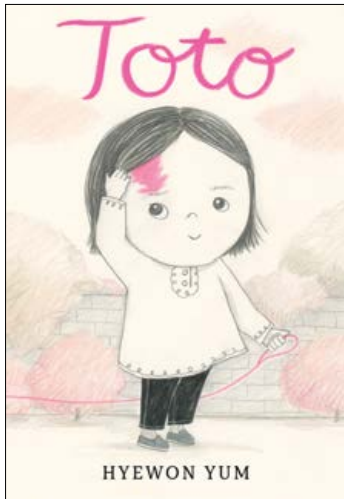
A bittersweet tribute that makes a poignant connection between maps and the concept of home."—*Kirkus Reviews*

**Rights Sales:**

**Dutch/Schoolsupport**

See page 20 of the backlist guide for more titles by Eaton.





*A little girl is self-conscious about the birthmark on her forehead—until a new friend helps her see it in a whole new light.*

**NP**

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 7<sup>1/2</sup> x 11  
January 21, 2025

"A sweet, uplifting take on facial difference, friendship, and self-acceptance."—*Kirkus Reviews*

**Rights Sales:**

- Catalan (Spain only)/Bellaterra •**
- Chinese Simplified/Look Book •**
- French/Editions des Eléphants •**
- Japanese/Fukuinkan Shoten • Korean/Woongjin**
- Portuguese (Brazil)/Melhoramentos •**
- Spanish (Spain only)/Bellaterra**

See page 9 of the backlist guide for more titles by Yum.



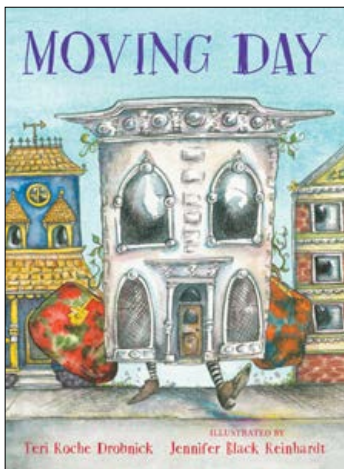
*Set out for the stars in this warmhearted ode to the transportive power of imagination.*

**MF**

Ages 4-6  
40 pages • 10 x 9  
January 14, 2025

Fern and Rosie are astronaut sisters, ready to sail miles above the clouds. They slip on their boots (space boots). They strap on their helmets (space helmets). They pretend the swingset can launch them into the stars, and they lie on the grass gazing up at the real ones. A tender celebration of just how far our imaginations can take us, featuring a sweet sibling relationship.

See page 6 of the backlist guide for another title by Fortenberry.

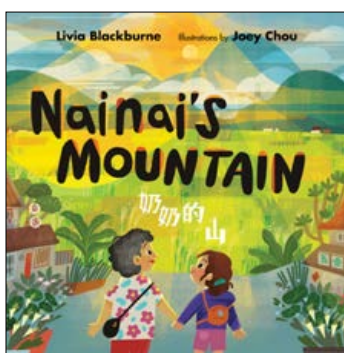


*Inspired by the real-life story of moving a 139-year-old house six blocks, this story from a house's perspective is a charming twist on a common childhood experience.*

**MF**

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 8 x 11  
March 11, 2025

It's moving day and this house can't imagine what it will be like to live in a different neighborhood. She feels a lug and a tug as she's lifted onto the flatbed of a truck. She teeters and totters as she slowly begins her journey. But it isn't until she sees her family standing in her new spot that the house realizes it's right where it belongs—with them.



*A girl is nervous about visiting Taiwan—until her paternal grandmother, her Nainai, takes her on a mountain-climbing adventure and shows her its wonders.*

**NP**

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 10  
April 8, 2025

Traveling to Taiwan for the first time, even with her parents and her Nainai, is a lot for a little girl to take in. The plane ride lasts forever and she can't read any of the signs. But then Nainai becomes her tour guide, and Taiwan transforms. Whether it's a reflection of home or a window into somewhere brand-new, everyone will love following Nainai to the top of her mountain.



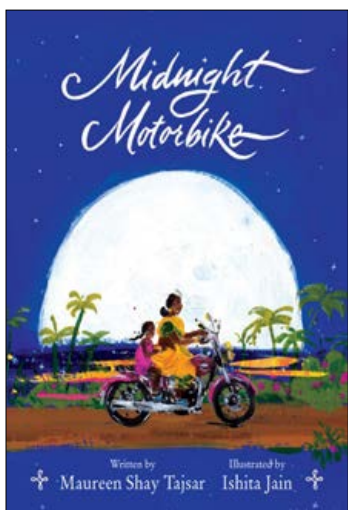
*A family takes a nighttime drive to the moon in this love letter to country living, crackling with wonder and warmth.*

**NP**

Ages 4-8  
48 pages • 9 x 11  
March 25, 2025

★ "Spellbinding . . . a reminder to look more closely at the world around us."—*Kirkus Reviews*

In this heartfelt book, a family in a small town spends the evening preparing for a special nighttime tradition. As the sun sets and the sky slips into dusk, they load up a spare couch on a rusty old car and drive into the mountains. With a little imagination and the magic of moonlight, their plain couch transforms into something so much more.



*On a night too hot to sleep, Amma takes her daughter on a magical, moonlit motorbike ride through South India.*

**NP**

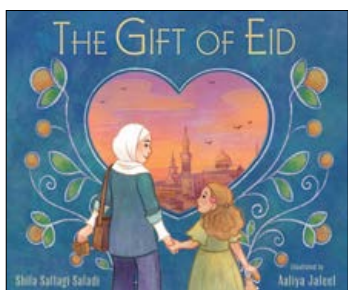
Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 8<sup>1/2</sup> x 11  
April 8, 2025

★ "The dreamlike visuals complement the lyrical text, engaging readers' senses and showcasing the gentle, loving relationship between mother and child."—*Kirkus Reviews*

In this lush mother-daughter nighttime adventure through the jungles of southern India, debut author Maureen Shay Tajsar enchants the reader with all five senses, offering smells of spicy tea, tastes of warm potato dosa, and wind washing over sandaled feet. Debut illustrator Ishita Jain immerses the reader in the deepest blue and the coziest love, in a book that feels at once like a hug and an adventure.

**Rights Sales:**

**Chinese Traditional/Les Gouttes Press**



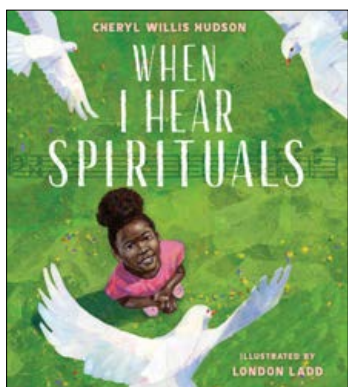
*A retelling of The Gift of the Magi, set against the backdrop of the Great Mosque of Damascus.*

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 11 x 8<sup>1/2</sup>  
February 11, 2025

★ "Tenderly presented . . . a warm holiday offering."—*Booklist*

**By a National Book Award-Winning Author**

Yasmine doesn't have enough money to buy Mama's Eid gift. When she gets lost in the Souq, Yasmine realizes that true Eid joy comes from being together. Set in the famous Souk Al-Hamidiyah and the Great Mosque of Damascus, this heartfelt story offers a Muslim background to one of the most loved stories of all time.



*A girl connects with heritage, history, and a higher power through the lyrics of twelve beloved spirituals and four seminal events in African American history.*

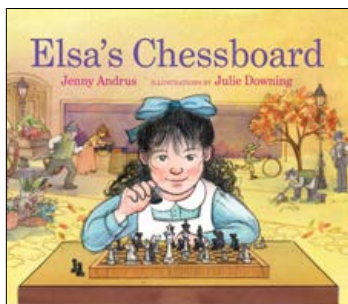
Ages 6-9  
40 pages • 10 x 9  
January 7, 2025

★ "A deeply resonant work that speaks to these songs' historical—and present—meaning."—*Kirkus Reviews*

★ "Readers fortunate enough to have heard and sung spirituals as children will feel at home, with their memories providing a soundtrack of one song after another."—*Booklist*

★ *Publishers Weekly*    ★ *The Horn Book*

★ *School Library Journal*    ★ *BCCB*



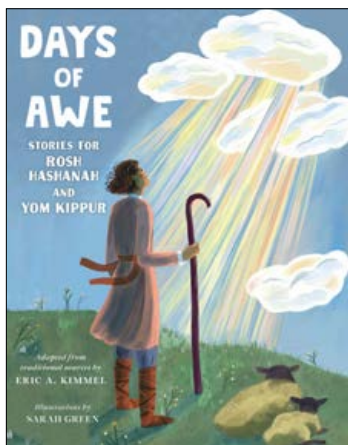
*Elsa carries her chessboard everywhere, always ready for a game. When World War II forces her from Europe, can chess help make her a new home?*



Ages 4-8  
48 pages • 11 x 8<sup>1/2</sup>  
April 29, 2025

Growing up in 1900s Vienna, Elsa's brothers are always playing chess. "No girls!" they tell her; but she wears them down, and soon she's such a pro that they give her a chess set of her own. She begins playing chess whenever she can. But when World War II grips Europe, the young Jewish family must emigrate to America, where they are surrounded by unfamiliar languages. Luckily, Elsa knows one language that can always bring people together: chess!

See page 7 of the backlist guide for more titles by Downing.

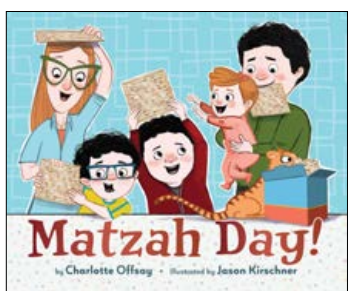


*Three inspiring stories illuminate the mitzvot of the High Holy Days: Charity, Repentance, and Prayer, in a strikingly illustrated new edition.*

Ages 8-10  
48 pages • 7<sup>1/2</sup> x 8  
August 19, 2025

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

See pages 17 and 18 of the backlist guide for more titles by Kimmel.



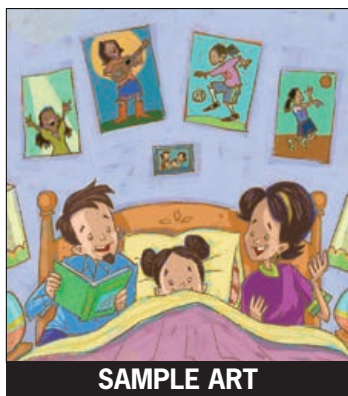
*It's Matzah Day! Celebrate with this joyful story.*

Ages 3-5  
40 pages • 10 x 8  
February 25, 2025

Selected for the Spring 2025 Association of Jewish Libraries Holiday Highlights List

In this fun story, a family celebrates Passover with lots of matzah—with lox, as stuffing, matzah pizza, and matzah candy. Get it from a box or make it yourself. Information about Passover and matzah, as well as matzah recipes, are included at the back of the book.

See page 13 of the backlist guide for *Challah Day!*



*A picture book that celebrates bilingual households.*

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 8<sup>1/2</sup> x 11  
September 16, 2025

Full interior available: March.

*My Daddy Speaks English, Mamá habla español* by Marianne Dolce, art by Joe Cepeda

Written with a combination of English and Spanish words that reflects the speech of a bilingual family, this story follows a child through her busy day—breakfast with Mommy, Daddy, and big sister; at the library with Grandma; buying groceries with Mommy; dinner time; bathtime; storytime; and bedtime. Every event is filled with love and joy. Then she dreams sweet dreams—in both English and Spanish, of course!

See page 53 for another title by Cepeda.

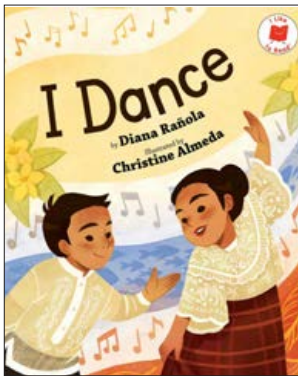
SAMPLE ART



**Check out these new additions to our award-winning ILTR series!**

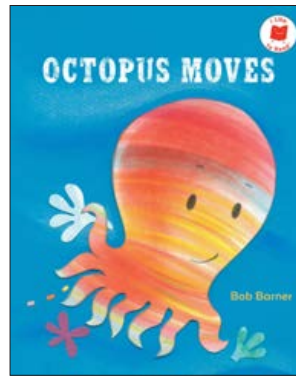
Holiday House's award-winning **I Like to Read**® series builds vocabulary and promote fluency, which are essential for reading success.

Acclaimed author-illustrators—including winners of Caldecott, Theodor Seuss Geisel, and Coretta Scott King honors—create original, high-quality books that are fun for kids to read with their parents, teachers, or on their own!



*Fun pictures show dancers in authentic poses and beautiful costumes. Each illustration shows a Philippine folk dance.*

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 8 x 10  
**October 28, 2025**



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

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 8 x 10  
**June 3, 2025**

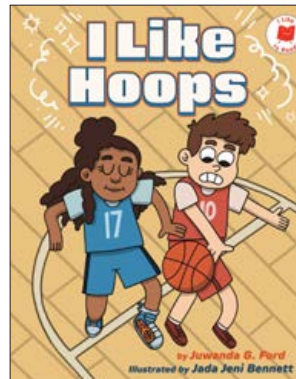
See page 15 of the backlist guide for more titles by Barner.



*A girl wants to play with her brother's toys. And she won't give up! From two-time Theodor Seuss Geisel Honoree Paul Meisel.*

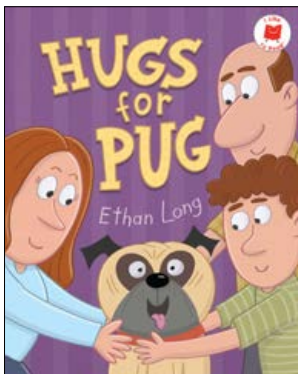
Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 8 x 10  
**April 15, 2025**

See page 22 of this guide and pages 16, 19, & 21 of the backlist guide for more titles by Meisel.



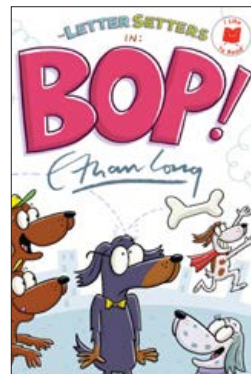
*A close game of basketball is full of suspense, joy—and good sportsmanship, too!*

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 8 x 10  
**June 24, 2025**



*Welcome to Pug's world—where simple text meets adorable artwork, and young readers meet their new best friend.*

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 8 x 10  
**November 5, 2024**



*Learning how to read should be a walk in the dog park! Follow four curious canines on letter-replacement adventures in this early reader series.*

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 6 x 9  
**June 24, 2025**

See page 23 of the backlist guide for more titles by Long.

# Nonfiction Picture Books





SAMPLE ART



Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 9<sup>3/4</sup> x 7<sup>1/2</sup>  
January 13, 2026

## HOW TO HAVE A THOUGHT

### A WALK WITH CHARLES DARWIN

BY NICHOLAS DAY, ART BY HADLEY HOOPER

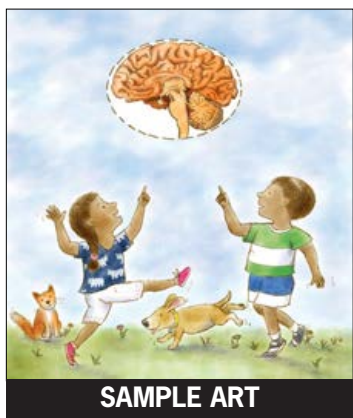
*Take a walk with Charles Darwin in this electrifying new picture book from Sibert Medalist Nicholas Day.*

How do you work through a complicated idea, solve a tricky problem, or make a big discovery? Charles Darwin had a lot of ways to do it. He paced in circles and hit rocks with a stick. He studied the bones of his dinner. He rode around the world on a boat. These methods may sound unorthodox, but they led him to discoveries about the origins of life.

**NICHOLAS DAY** is the author of the Sibert Medal-winning title *The Mona Lisa Vanishes* and *Nothing: John Cage and 4'33"*.

**HADLEY HOOPER**'s illustrated books include *Gifts for Georgia's Garden*, *The Story of the Story*, and *Two Brothers, Four Hands*.

See page 22 for another title by Day and pages 10 and 22 for more titles by Hooper.



SAMPLE ART

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 8 x 10  
April 21, 2026

Full interior available: late March.

## HOORAY FOR MY BRAIN!

BY PAUL MEISEL

*An easy-to-read introduction to the human brain by Theodor Seuss Geisel Honoree Paul Meisel.*

What does your brain look like? Like a gray sponge. How does it tell your body to do all those incredible things? Nerves that send messages to every part of your body. *Hooray for My Brain!* breaks down vocabulary like cerebellum with simple language. Energetic artwork show the connections between actions and what's going on inside the human body.

**PAUL MEISEL** has received two Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Awards as well as American Library Association Notable Awards for *See Me Run* and *I See a Cat*. His other works include his 'I See' and 'See Me' series, *The Nature Diary Series*, and *You Poop Here*.

See pages 16, 19, & 21 of the backlist guide for more titles by Meisel.



Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 8 x 10  
October 21, 2025

## THE CHEMISTRY BETWEEN ART AND SCIENCE

BY JEN WHITE

*An inspiring look at how observation, patience, and creativity fuel our discoveries in art and science.*

Artists and scientists have a lot in common. Like curiosity and imagination! And when they work together, art and science can explain the mysteries of the universe. Like how paleontologists study fossils and paleo artists bring those findings to life with brilliant color. Discover how interconnected these two subjects are, and how they both lift the other up.

**JEN WHITE** is a designer, creative director, author, and illustrator who works with the San Diego Air and Space Observatory. This is her debut.

# STONE BY STONE

BY MELISSA KOCH, ART BY VICTORIA TENTLER-KRYLOV

*What we build matters, as explored in this thought-provoking look at the rock cycle and human engineering and ingenuity.*

Meticulously researched and stunningly illustrated, *Stone by Stone* invites readers to consider how the rock cycle and human history connect. The text takes readers through the rock cycle with striking detail before moving above ground to show how humans have used stones across history. Changed by billions of years and shaped by human hands, the stones that line our streets, buildings, and homes are a part of our story. Earth's story.



COVER SKETCH

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 11 x 8<sup>1/2</sup>  
February 3, 2026

**MELISSA KOCH** is the author of *3D Printing* and *Forest Talk*. This is her debut.

**VICTORIA TENTLER-KRYLOV's** illustrated books include *The Cyclops of Central Park*, and *I'm Gonna Paint*, which was named a Bologna Children's Illustration Winner.

See page 22 for another title by Tentler-Krylov.



SAMPLE ART



Ages 7-10  
56 pages • 6 x 9  
March 17, 2026

Full interior available: late March.

# HOW TO SAVE A FOREST

BY TIM HAMILTON

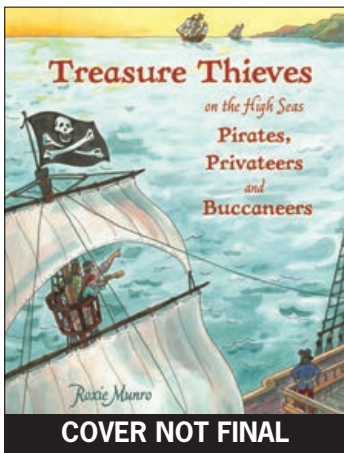
*In this vivid graphic info book, you will learn why forests are in trouble and what you can do to stop it.*

What is a forest? What plants and animals live there? Why do we need forests? Why are we losing them? What can people—including kids—do to save the world's forests? Learn about ecosystems, invasive species and more in this vivid nonfiction graphic novel with over 150 illustrations.

**TIM HAMILTON** creates cartoons for *The New Yorker*. His children's books include *The Big Fib*, *The Super Duper Seven*, and *Is That a Cat?*

See page 53 for another title by Hamilton.





*Did pirates really have peg legs? Did they make people “walk the plank?” Nonfiction pro Roxie Munro has the answers to kids’ questions about real-life pirates!*

Ages 6-10  
48 pages • 10 x 8  
February 24, 2026

Sail the seven seas with pirates of legend—Blackbeard, Calico Jack, and more! Beyond meeting the fascinating fiends of the open ocean, readers will sail full STEAM ahead as they learn about navigation, the environment, geology, and more with Munro’s historical and scientifically-oriented approach.

See page 21 of the backlist guide for more titles by Munro.



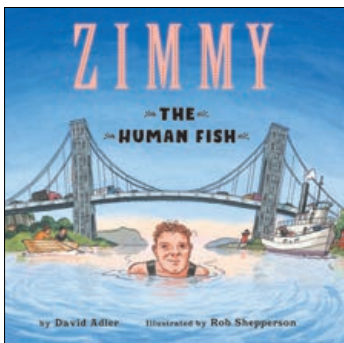
*The true story of how a nearly 100-year-old synagogue and its elderly congregation found new life, hope, and community.*

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 8 x 10  
September 16, 2025

***The Tenth Man* by Artie Bennett, art by Shira Neiss**

In Orthodox tradition, one needs ten Jewish men to perform certain prayers, but the nine elderly congregants of Anshe Sfard, all Holocaust survivors, had gone without a tenth person for a long time. Until a young man named Alex Brown happened to knock on the door. In this tribute to World War II survivors, Artie Bennett captures everyday life at the synagogue. Movingly illustrated by debut illustrator Shira Neiss, *The Tenth Man* shows how even the smallest acts of service can keep a community and its memories alive.

Full interior available: March.

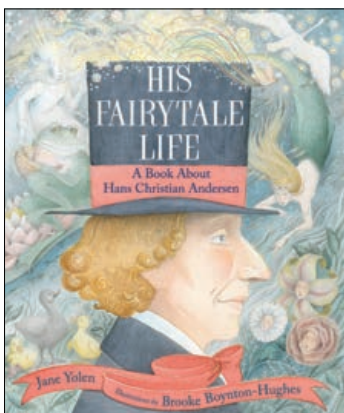


*Bestselling author David A. Adler tells the story of Charles “Zimmy” Zibelman, the legless athlete who swam from Albany to NYC.*

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 10  
January 20, 2026

On August 23, 1938, “The Legless Wonder” Charles Zibelman began a daring swim to New York City—a journey that would take him six days to complete. Swimming for up to a hundred hours at a time without stopping, he was covered in barnacles by the time he arrived and was greeted by thousands of cheering spectators.

See pages 25 and 26 of the backlist guide for more titles by Adler.



*The storyteller becomes the story in this illuminating biographical picture book of Hans Christian Andersen, father of the modern fairy tale.*

**NP** Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 9 x 11  
April 1, 2025

★ “Yolen sensitively recounts how Andersen’s story—‘more like a fairy tale than a life’—was marked by hardship, ambition, creativity, and longing.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

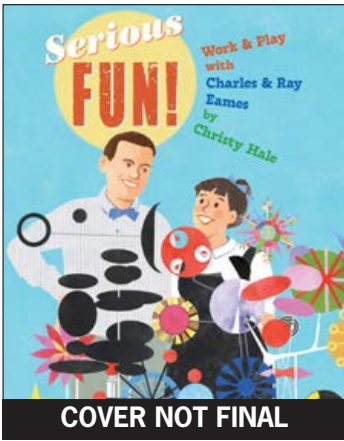
A century and a half have passed since Hans Christian Andersen’s death, but his stories are more alive than ever. Now, meet the human that came before the legend.

**Rights Sales:**

**Chinese Simplified/Children Fun • Chinese Traditional/The Eastern Publishing Company • Japanese/Iwasaki**

See page 9 of the backlist guide for more titles by Yolen.





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

**NP** Ages 7-11  
40 pages • 10<sup>3/4</sup> x 9  
March 17, 2026

Twentieth-century design duo Charles and Ray Eames had serious fun solving problems. In all that they did, they let fun lead the way; the only rules were no rules, no limits and no getting bored. Though known today for their iconic leather lounge chairs, the Eameses were always trying something new. They made furniture in every shape they could think of. Christy Hale's retro illustrations and enthusiastic text bring mid-century modern delightfully alive. *Serious Fun!* is a must-read for any bright young thinker.



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

**NP** Ages 4-8  
48 pages • 9 x 11  
May 6, 2025

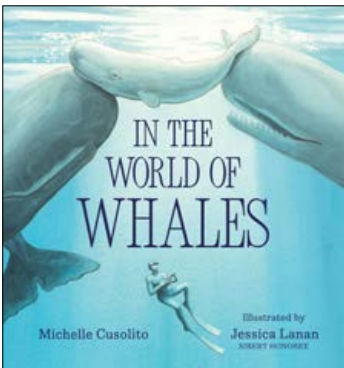
★ “Deeply empathetic, brilliantly illustrated, and chock-full of information.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

★ “[A] rich trove of resources.”—*Publishers Weekly*

**Rights Sales:**

**Chinese Simplified/Love Reading • Dutch/Schoolsupport Japanese/Fukuinkan • Korean/Spring Garden**

See pages 4 and 19 of the backlist guide for more titles by Chin.



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

**NP** Ages 4-8  
48 pages • 9<sup>1/2</sup> x 10  
June 17, 2025

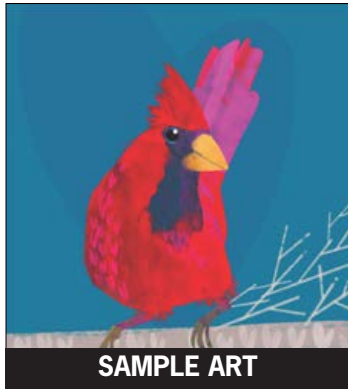
When a diver slips underwater, he encounters a pod of sperm whales. He sees blood in the water and wonders if there's been an injury. But when he comes closer, he finds a moments-old calf. The calf's family nudges it toward each member of the pod, by way of introduction; and then the mother nudges her child toward the diver, inviting him, too, to share in the family moment.



*Hop in the tractor and ride along with a corn farmer in this colorfully illustrated, high-energy read about harvesting corn.*

**NP** Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 8 x 10  
July 29, 2025

It's corn-picking time, and the farmer has all her tools ready! The cornhead gobbles the stalks. The spreader spits out chaff. The grain wagon fills with corn! Corn picking time is a favorite season on author Jill Esbaum's family farm, and the joy is sure to be shared by young lovers of tractors, trucks, and all machines.



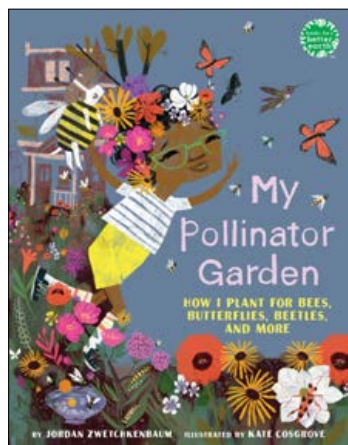
*Let your curiosity take flight with this nonfiction picture book exploring the world of birds from acclaimed author Will Hillenbrand.*

Ages 4-8  
40 pages • 10 x 10  
**March 3, 2026**

## *Light As a Feather* by Will Hillenbrand

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

**See pages 9 and 16 of this guide and page 17 of the backlist guide for more titles by Hillenbrand.**

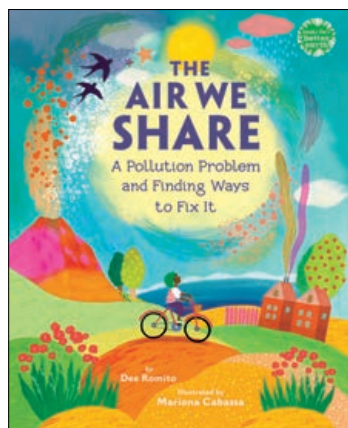


*Want to help the earth? You can start in your own yard!*

Ages 3-6  
40 pages • 8<sup>1/2</sup> x 11  
**May 13, 2025**

Learn about bees, birds, butterflies, and bats—and the special plants that keep them alive. The stunning illustrations are by *New York Times* bestselling illustrator Kate Cosgrove. Back matter features information about how you can grow your own pollinator garden.

**See page 20 of the backlist guide for more titles by Cosgrove.**

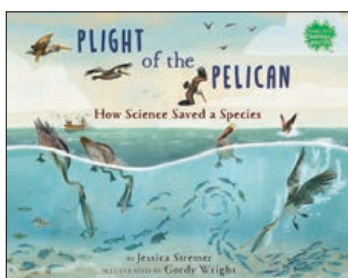


*What goes up there ends up here! That's because air travels around the earth and carries lots of stuff in it.*

Ages 6-9  
40 pages • 8<sup>1/2</sup> x 11  
**May 27, 2025**

Air carries good matter like seeds, scents, and sounds, but also bad matter like ash, dust, and smog. Read about the eruption of the volcano Krakatoa that sent ash around the world and The Great Smog of London that killed thousands. Then learn what people can do to protect the air we share.

**See page 20 of the backlist guide for another title by Romito.**



*A celebration of how scientists and activists can work together to protect wildlife.*

Ages 5-8  
40 pages • 10 x 8  
**April 1, 2025**

In the 1950s, the brown pelican went from thriving to barely surviving. The culprit was DDT: a harmful pesticide that seeped into soil and caused the pelican population to plummet. It took many voices demanding change before the government took action. This picture book introduces young readers to one of the biggest grassroots movements of our time.

**See pages 21 and 42 of the backlist guide for more titles by Stremmer and Garland.**

# Novels





Ages 14 and Up

416 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

September 23, 2025

## THIS RAGING SEA

BY DE ELIZABETH

*18-year-old Briar Winters must untangle the horrifying secrets of her coastal town in order to save her best friend after he disappears in this YA dark fantasy for fans of Bly Manor.*

“Threaded with mystery and elegantly haunting, *This Raging Sea* is impossible to put down and has the kind of epic love story that will take your breath away.”—CG Drews, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Don't Let the Forest In*

“As haunting as it is romantic, *This Raging Sea* manages to make the distinct nostalgia of summers with a first love feel like an unsettling funhouse. A propulsive, melancholic read from the first page to the last.”—Kelly Andrew, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Your Blood, My Bones*

Historic Loch Creek is a witchy tourist trap—but it’s just a trap for Briar, who’s convinced she’ll die there among the waves that devoured her twin brother thirteen years ago. But when her best friend who she’s loved since childhood, Finn, vanishes from the seaside carnival, there’s only one person who can help Briar find him: Morgan, her biggest enemy who knows her darkest secret.

As Briar uncovers hidden truths as deep and dark as the water that haunts her, it quickly becomes clear that Finn has gone much further than anyone could have imagined. He’s lost in time, and neither of them are safe. If Briar and Finn look too hard, they might find terrifying answers—not just about what’s buried beneath the shores, but also the threads tying them to each other. As past and future collide, the seductive yet evil underwater entity that intends to claim Briar still needs its sacrifice . . .

And it’s too hungry to go unsated.

Equal parts epic bisexual romance and pulse-pounding horror, *This Raging Sea* is a dual POV dark fantasy as sweepingly powerful as the ocean that threatens to consume everything and everyone Briar has ever loved—prepare to be devoured.

### Rights Sales:

**French/Pending • German/Vajona • Polish/Foksal**

**DE ELIZABETH** is the author of *A Shared Haunting*. In addition to writing fiction, De is a journalist whose articles have been featured in *Teen Vogue*, *HuffPost*, *MTV News*, and more.



Ages 14 and Up  
304 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
February 3, 2026

See page 28 of the backlist guide  
for another title by Eller.

## LEFT ON READ

BY MARISSA ELLER

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

Murphy's senior year is going to be perfect, and so is she... because she's pushing herself to her physical and mental limit. All she needs to do is ignore her mounting anxiety!

But Hayes—her rival for valedictorian—is making her year far less perfect. He's after that top spot. To her surprise, when Murphy and Hayes are paired up for a group project on student mental health, Murphy discovers that he might be the only one who understands what she's going through. Together, they can stand up to the pressures of academia, family, and the way most traveled.

MARISSA ELLER is the author of *Joined at the Joints*.



Ages 14 and Up  
336 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
October 7, 2025

## NO CHARM DONE

BY TORI ANNE MARTIN

*May the best witch win in this sapphic enemies-to-lovers romcom, where rival witches hex for the affections of the new boy in school... but are vexed by their interest in each other.*

Welcome to Thornhaven, a quaint town where witches hide in plain sight.

When Lily's tarot cards tell her that a boyfriend is essential for a successful year, she will do whatever it takes to date the new boy at school.

When Chrysanthemum moved here three years ago, she and Lily were fast enemies. If Lily wants the new boy, then Chrys is going to win him first.

But when their hexes create a curse, they'll have to work together to stop it... and reckon with buried emotions. This playful, witchy romcom from *USA Today* bestselling author Tori Anne Martin is sure to appeal to fans of sapphic charmers like *I Kissed Shara Wheeler*.

TORI ANNE MARTIN is the *USA Today* bestselling author of *This Spells Disaster*. She has also authored many romance and fantasy books for adults.



Ages 14 and Up  
352 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
October 14, 2025

Manuscript available:  
end of March.

## A RIDDLE OF THORNS

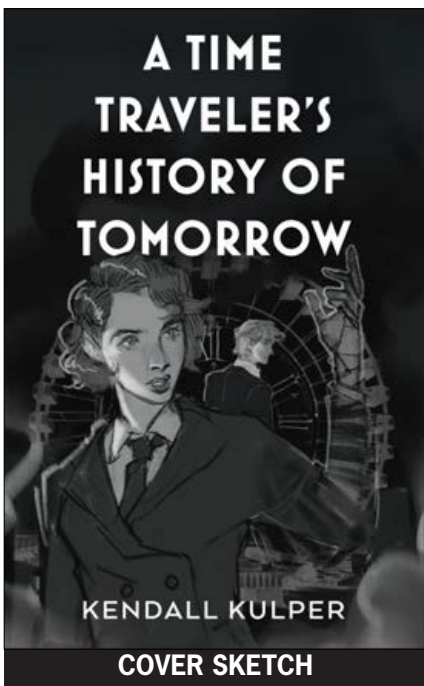
BY SARENA NANUA AND SASHA NANUA

*A twisty Dark Academia mystery set in an alternate Gilded Age Paris—glittering, elegant, unsettling, and perfect for fans of Divine Rivals and The Inheritance Games.*

Sana Gupta has waited years to return to her home in Paris. She is finally 18—and ready to claim her inheritance. When she arrives, she finds three strangers awaiting her. Per her mysteriously missing mother’s will, they’ve received invitations to compete for the deed to Minerva Manor. Sana sets out to uncover the truth: the house is not the prize, but the razorthorn hidden within is: a wish-granting plant created by the gods.

Set in an Edwardian Paris, in an alternate world where worship of the Roman gods never ended, *A Riddle of Thorns* drips with atmosphere, confounds with intricate puzzles, and sizzles with romantic tension.

SARENA NANUA AND SASHA NANUA are twin sisters and the authors of the Ria & Rani duology.



Ages 14 and Up  
352 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
November 4, 2025

See page 28 of the backlist guide  
for more titles by Kulper.

## A TIME TRAVELER'S HISTORY OF TOMORROW

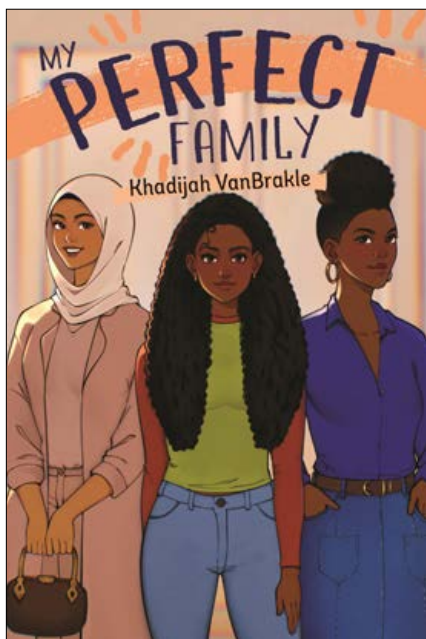
BY KENDALL KULPER

*A time-bending love story where a prickly young woman and a carefree stranger are tasked with saving the universe—after accidentally destroying it in the first place.*

Genevieve Newhouse can turn herself invisible. Ash Hargreaves can manipulate time. They cross paths at the 1933 Chicago World’s Fair, where Genevieve’s project causes an apocalyptic explosion. Ash tries to avert catastrophe by rewinding time but instead transports them back to 1893. The duo finds themselves trapped in an unfamiliar era, unable to return home—if their time even exists.

Fate and free will intertwine in this page turning historical romance. “Will they or won’t they” takes on a whole new meaning as Gen and Ash fight for survival while falling in love.

KENDALL KULPER is the author of *Murder for the Modern Girl* and *A Starlet’s Secret to a Sensational Afterlife*.



Ages 14 and Up  
272 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
July 29, 2025

See page 27 of the backlist guide  
for another title by VanBrakle.

## MY PERFECT FAMILY

BY KHADIJAH VANBRAKLE

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

Leena lives with her single mom and always dreamed of having a huge family. But one call from the hospital, and her mother's hidden past comes to light: Her grandfather is in the ER, and her aunt is with him.

Leena grows close with her new family behind her mother's back. Her mom warns that Leena's grandfather's financial generosity comes with strings attached... like Leena converting to Islam and attending a top university. Leena isn't sure who to trust. Can her mother and grandfather heal their relationship? If not, will she have to choose between them? Warm, witty, and sometimes serious, *My Perfect Family* is a poignant narrative that gives voice to Black Muslim women.

**KHADIJAH VANBRAKLE** is the author of *Fatima Tate Takes the Cake*. She is active in running her local SCBWI chapter.



Ages 12 and Up  
272 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
June 10, 2025

## TOP HEAVY

BY RHONDA DECHAMBEAU

*A heart-stopping debut novel in verse about a talented dancer struggling to give herself grace in the wake of an assault.*

"Nothing is as heavy as carrying the things people say to you about your body so often you end up believing them. And nothing is as freeing as letting all that go so you can finally soar. An inspiring debut." —Lisa Fipps, Printz Honor author of *Starfish*

Fifteen-year-old Esme lives and breathes dance. After a summer of non-stop practice, she and her best friend Mia earn spots on the dance team. This year should be smooth sailing. But when a stranger touches Esme's breasts during a night of dancing, she feels violated. After years of being oversexualized for her large chest, this pushes her over the edge. Was it her fault? Could she have stopped it? This dazzling, tour-de-force debut tackles friendship, first love, and sexual assault. Esme musters strength she didn't know she had—and learns to lean on others after finding the right support. An unforgettable read, perfect for fans of *Speak*.

**RHONDA DECHAMBEAU** was awarded the coveted Boston Public Library Writer-in-Residence fellowship. *Top Heavy* is her debut.



Ages 14 and Up • 304 pages  
April 15, 2025

## NAHIA

BY EMILY JONES

*A sweeping epic set in the wild and dangerous world of prehistoric Europe.*

"Enthralling."—*Publishers Weekly*

"A world both familiar and breathtakingly, brilliantly new. I couldn't put this one down!"—**Claire M. Andrews**, award-winning author of the *Daughter of Sparta* trilogy

"Tells the story of a young woman who faces a starkly changing world and must learn how to embrace her own power."—**Nicole Lesperance**, award-winning author of *The Wide Starlight* and *The Depths*



Ages 14 and Up • 304 pages  
January 7, 2025

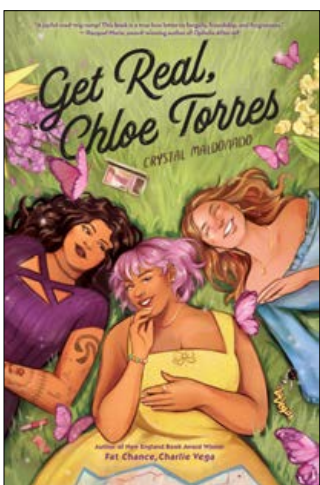
## THIS IS THE YEAR

BY GLORIA MUÑOZ

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

"Hauntingly beautiful and profoundly moving."—**K. X. Song**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Night Ends with Fire*

"With young people increasingly despondent over deteriorating environmental conditions, *This Is the Year* offers a pure gust of hope in an increasingly fractured and warming world."—**Nora Shalaway Carpenter**, award-winning author of *The Edge of Anything*



Ages 14 and Up • 240 pages  
May 13, 2025

## GET REAL, CHLOE TORRES

BY CRYSTAL MALDONADO

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

**A Forbes Most Anticipated Young Adult Book of 2025**

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

See page 28 of the backlist guide for more titles by Maldonado.





SAMPLE ART SKETCH

NP

Ages 10 and Up  
240 pages • 9 x 6  
B&W Art Throughout  
April 7, 2026

See pages 4 and 5 of the backlist guide for Stead's picture books.

## A POTION, A POWDER, A LITTLE BIT OF MAGIC

BY PHILIP C. STEAD

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

In a kingdom ruled by a capricious king, the castle rests on the backs of twenty-four goats, and the welfare of those goats rests on the back of a girl called Bernadette. So when one goat escapes, it's up to her to bring it home. Her task may be straightforward, but this book is anything but. The chapters are all out of order. And the ending may prove to have been the beginning. Award-winning picture book author and illustrator Philip Stead makes a confident debut as a novelist in one-of-a-kind illustrated tale, full of running gags, broken fourth walls, and underdog triumph.

**PHILIP C. STEAD** is the author of the Caldecott Medal-winning *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*. He is both an author and illustrator, his many works including *Music for Mister Moon*, *The Sun Is Late and So Is the Farmer*, *The North Wind and the Sun*, and *Sometimes It's Nice to Be Alone*.



COVER SKETCH

MF

Ages 10-12  
224 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
March 3, 2026

See page 37 of the backlist guide for more titles by Uss.

## MIDNIGHT MAYHEM

BY CHRISTINA USS

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

When Kaz Jakobsen's life is upended with a sudden move to a city, he has no way of knowing it's about to be turned around again: after ingesting a potent combo of the greenest mustard and rootiest rootbeer in the world, Kaz loses the ability to sleep.

Kaz meets Floyd, a fellow non-sleeping kid, in a sleep study hospital. Floyd takes Kaz on midnight adventures, introducing him to the all of the fun things kids can do at night. While Kaz wants to keep Floyd's friendship, he would like to lose the mayhem. When he learns there's an antidote to his ailment, he has a tough choice to make. If Kaz cures his sleeplessness, will he lose the best friend he's ever had?

**CHRISTINA USS** is the author of *The Adventures of a Girl Called Bicycle*, its sequel, *A Few Bicycles More*, and *The Colossus of Roads*.



COVER ART NOT FINAL

## THE STAR OF MOON VILLAGE

BY JENNIFER ANN RICHTER

*Even in outer space there are frenemies, as middle schooler Priscilla learns in this smart and funny novel that's perfect for fans of *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* and *The Fourteenth Goldfish*.*

Priscilla Cobb has spent her whole life dreaming of space. So when an international student research voyage to the Moon is announced, Priscilla is nose to the grindstone, training day in and day. But as Priscilla discovers, research will not be the priority of the trip. The whole trip starts to feel like a vacation for the ultra rich and famous. And when a secret guest is revealed, someone Priscilla hoped to never cross paths with again, Priscilla decides enough is enough.

Ages 8-12

224 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

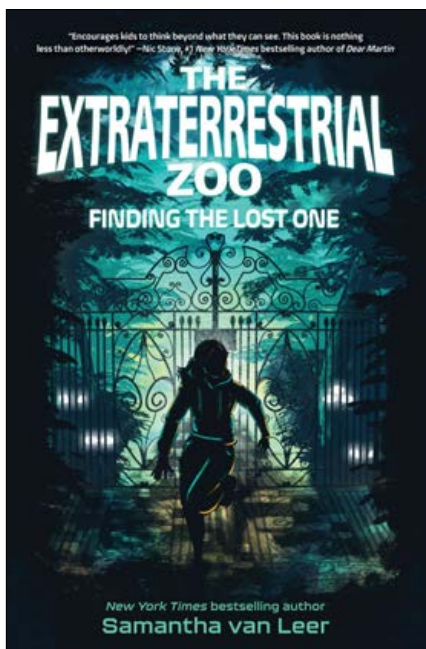
January 27, 2026

Manuscript available: March.

See page 30 of the backlist guide for another title by Richter.

Combining classic middle school growing pains with a near-future space setting, *The Star of Moon Village* is perfect for readers who want to imagine and fight for a better future.

JENNIFER ANN RICHTER is the author of *Bird Nerd*.



## FINDING THE LOST ONE

THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL ZOO #1

BY SAMANTHA VAN LEER

*An out-of-this-world adventure about an extraterrestrial refuge by a New York Times bestselling author.*

"Encourages kids to think beyond what they can see."

—Nic Stone, bestselling author of *Dear Martin*

They might be "aliens" to you, but to thirteen-year-old Ava they are ELBs: Extraterrestrial Living Beings. When they first arrived on Earth, Ava and her parents cared for and studied them. The family's zoo became a destination, and their lab became their life's work. That was all before the ELBs stopped arriving, though. Before Ava's mom died and her dad disappeared. These days, Ava pretty much runs the zoo on her own. It doesn't matter that no one comes to the zoo anymore, or that now people see aliens as a threat. Someone's got to keep them—and her family's legacy—alive.

**P+I**

Ages 10-14

240 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

March 4, 2025

**Book #2 coming Fall 2026!**

SAMANTHA VAN LEER is the coauthor of the *New York Times* best-selling novels *Between the Lines* and *Off the Page*.



Ages 8-12

304 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

B&W Spot Art Throughout

October 14, 2025

See page 29 of the backlist guide for more titles by West.

## IVY AND FOREST REWRITE THE WORLD

BY HANNAH WEST, ART BY JENNIFER BRICKING

*Fairy tale heroes and fantasy villains chase one another across the multiverse in this clever middle grade debut that sparkles with bookish magic and quick-witted humor.*

Ivy is a daydreaming girl in the “real” world. Forest is a hero in Ivy's “pretend” story. Never the two shall meet... until Forest finds himself in Ivy's queendom. All Forest wants to do is talk to the author of his story about his character arc. But when Ivy rewrites Forest's story, the pair gets caught in an evil wizard's plot. Now, if they don't succeed, Forest's world could be obliterated with two short words: “The End.” Each story splinters into the next in this spin on storytelling tropes. Hannah West makes a middle debut that is perfect for bookworms.

**HANNAH WEST** is the author of young adult novels including *The Nissera Chronicles* series and *The Bitterwine Oath*.



Ages 8-12

304 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

October 21, 2025

See page 28 of the backlist guide for more titles by Meadows.

## CONFESSIONS FROM THE GROUP CHAT

BY JODI MEADOWS

*What happens in the group chat stays in the group chat... until it doesn't.*

Virginia Vaughn is popular, pretty, and maybe not the nicest girl. But when her ex-best-friends post her mean-girl texts online, she's got no one but her cat to talk to. Except for Grayson, the unpopular boy she now eats lunch with. When they start texting, she realizes she likes him. Problem is, she's said some VERY mean things about him in the past. And she knows those texts will be posted online too.

*Confessions From the Group Chat* is a novel about 13-year-olds misbehaving, innocent first love, and the inner life of a repentant mean girl. Sincere and endearingly messy, Jodi Meadows' latest middle grade novel is the perfect read for fans of *Mean Girls*.

**JODI MEADOWS** is the author of *Bye Forever, I Guess*; *Nightrender*; *Dawnbreaker*; the *Incarnate* and *Fallen Isles* trilogies; and is a coauthor of *New York Times* bestsellers *My Lady Jane* and *My Plain Jane*.



## SETTING THE STAGE

CAST VS. CREW #1

BY LINDSAY CHAMPION

*The full story of a school musical production, told exclusively by the kids backstage.*

Thirteen-year-old Ella has the program from every show she's ever seen. There's one line that bugs her in the actors' bios: "Many thanks to our cast and crew..." Cast and crew might share a stage, but that's *all* they share. While the cast get the credit, the crew cleans up their mess.

This is the first in an upper middle grade trilogy about what happens backstage as a group of students puts on a big show. *Cast and Crew* explores the stories of the kids backstage. They have their reasons for choosing to stay out of the spotlight, and this series will give each one of them a chance to shine.

P+I

Ages 10-14  
272 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
October 21, 2025

LINDSAY CHAMPION's YA novel, *Someday Somewhere*, was called "a miraculous debut" by *Entertainment Weekly*.

**Book #2 coming Summer 2026!**

## NATIONAL ARCHIVE HUNTERS

BY MATTHEW LANDIS



*An action-packed series from highly-acclaimed author Matthew Landis, National Archive Hunters introduces a brother-sister secret agent team sure to engross fans of National Treasure.*

**Praise for Book #1:**

★ "More original and entertaining than most mystery and adventure novels, the story is immediately involving. The fast-paced first-person narrative shifts, chapter by chapter, between Iris and Ike, setting the stage, introducing the intriguing characters, and laying the groundwork for upcoming volumes." —*Kirkus Reviews*



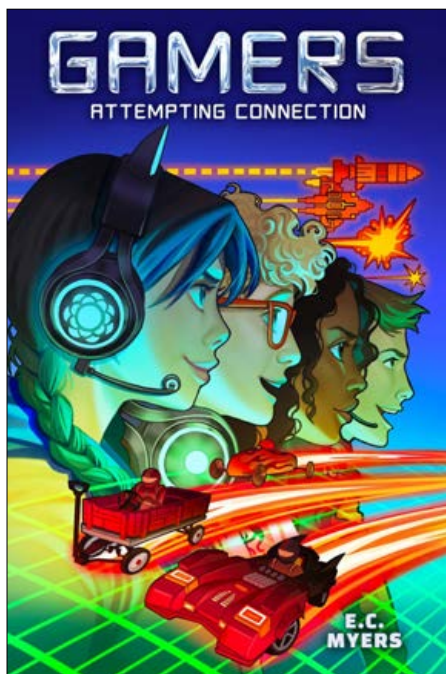
P+I

Ages 8-12  
304 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
May 14, 2025

P+I

Ages 8-12  
288 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
August 19, 2025

MATTHEW LANDIS is the author of *The Not So Boring Letters of Private Nobody*, *It's the End of the World as I Know It*, and *Operation Final Notice*. He also wrote the YA novel *League of American Traitors*.



**P+I** Ages 8-12  
272 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
May 6, 2025

## ATTEMPTING CONNECTION

### GAMERS #1

BY E.C. MYERS

*A classic tale of a team coming together, uniting kids from across the social spectrum—but this team plays e-sports, and the games are online.*

It's Chell Park's first week of school, and she's already waiting to see the principal. With three kids ahead of her in line, she pulls out her phone and starts playing a game. Before she knows it, the other kids are joining in. This chance meeting sets some new friendships in motion. Chell might be quiet in school, but she's also a fierce competitor, and soon she has a brilliant idea. Why don't they start a team?

**Book #2 coming Summer 2026!**

**E.C. MYERS** won the Andre Norton Nebula Award for *Fair Coin*, and is the author of the SOS Thriller series, *After the Fall*, *Before the Dawn*, *Fairy Tales of Remnant*, and *Roman Holiday*.



Ages 8-12  
208 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
May 20, 2025

## KEEPERS OF THE MARSH

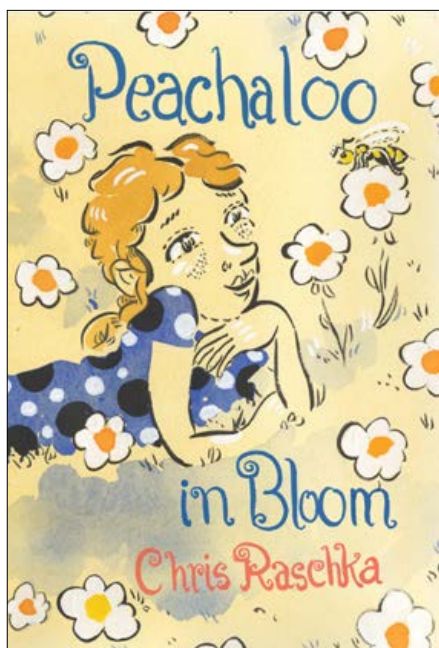
BY MAURA JORTNER

*Twin sisters team up—despite drastically different personalities—to save their family from a bitter witch's curse.*

Twelve-year-old Lana isn't looking for trouble when she ventures into the marsh behind her house, she's just bored. Her family never goes anywhere. And none of them will talk about her dead dad. With loads of unanswered questions, Lana decides to seek out the Alligator Witch. What Lana doesn't know is that the witch is plotting her revenge on the town. When the witch casts a curse, the only person Lana can ask for help is her generally unwilling twin, Gracie. Together, the twins embark on a journey to make sense of the Alligator Witch's past, along with the unexpected role their family played in her descent. In spite of their differences, Lana and Gracie must unite to save their loved ones. An enchanting read packed full of fascinating lore, girl-powered adventure, and just-enough danger.

**MAURA JORTNER's** debut novel, *102 Days of Lying About Lauren*, was named a *Shelf Awareness* Best Book of the Year.

See page 31 of the backlist guide for another title by Jortner.



NP

Ages 10 & Up  
304 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
B&W Art Throughout  
July 1, 2025

## PEACHALOO IN BLOOM

BY CHRIS RASCHKA

*From a Caldecott Medalist comes a one-of-a-kind illustrated novel where a wasp sting grants a girl a useful superpower.*

"It is a joy to read a smart, thoughtfully layered novel that is written so well. It's a terrific book—quirky, human, with a statement."

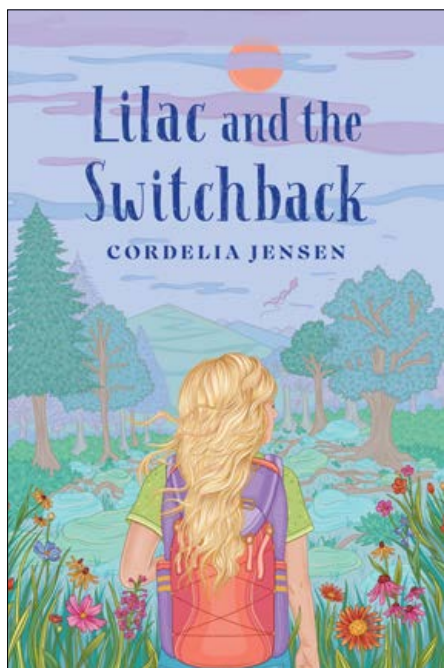
—Jack Gantos, Newbery Medal-winning author of *Dead End in Norvelt*

Peachaloo knows a golf course is not the destiny for the grounds of the Ajax Mansion, a former monastery whose denizens proclaimed it open to all. But the mansion's new owner has managed to bury the evidence of the Brothers and Sisters' wishes. After a wasp sting gives Peachaloo powers to understand the truth behind what people say, she decides it's up to her to prove this villain a liar. Raschka proves as deft with pen as paintbrush in this witty tale of Extraordinary Wasp Perception, oyster-slinging bank robbers, and standing up against greed.

### Rights Sales:

**Italian/Biancoenero Edizioni**

**CHRIS RASCHKA** is the Caldecott Medal-winning and Hans Christian Andersen Award-nominated author and illustrator of *A Ball for Daisy*, *Yo! Yes?*, *The Hello, Goodbye Window*, and *Nothing: John Cage and 4'33"*.



Ages 8-12  
304 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
August 19, 2025

## LILAC AND THE SWITCHBACK

BY CORDELIA JENSEN

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

"Doesn't shy away from the challenge of change, the complications of friends and family, and the discovery of the natural world."

—Chris Baron, award-winning author of *The Magical Imperfect*

"Lilac's journey had me reaching for tissues by the end. Readers will cheer as she discovers a path she doesn't have to navigate alone."

— Jessica Vitalis, award-winning author of *Coyote Queen*

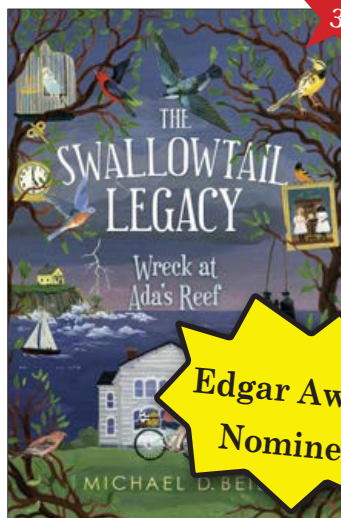
"Lilac's voice leaps off the page. With evocative poems and relatable characters, this is a beautiful verse novel about family, friendship, and one girl's deeply moving journey toward figuring out where she fits."

—Laurie Morrison, author of *Keeping Pace* and *Up for Air*

**CORDELIA JENSEN** has published three novels in verse: *Skyscraping*, *The Way the Light Bends*, and *Every Shiny Thing*.

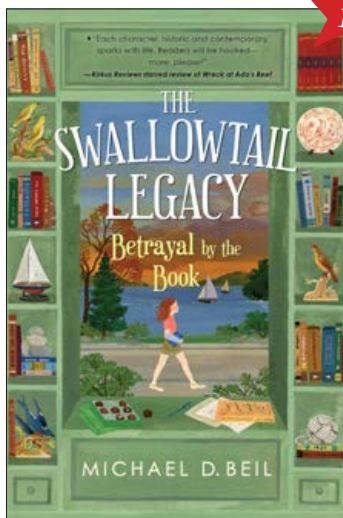
# THE SWALLOWTAIL LEGACY

BY MICHAEL D. BEIL



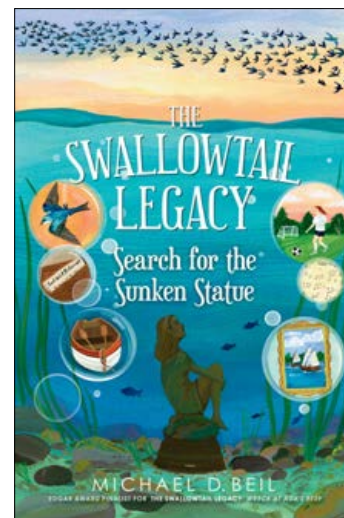
**P+I**

Ages 8-12 • 320 pages  
B&W Art Throughout  
February 15, 2022



**P+I**

Ages 8-12 • 320 pages  
B&W Art Throughout  
April 18, 2023



**P+I**

Ages 8-12 • 304 pages  
B&W Art Throughout  
May 6, 2025

**MICHAEL D. BEIL** is the author of the Red Blazer Girls series, *Summer at Forsaken Lake*, *Lantern Sam* and the *Blue Streak Bandits*, and *Agents of the Glass: A New Recruit*.



Ages 8-12  
288 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

July 1, 2025

See page 31 of the backlist for more titles by Johnson.

# THE BLOSSOMING SUMMER

BY ANNA ROSE JOHNSON

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

Life in England is all Rosemary has ever known... but as WWII changes the world, no one's life is left unscathed. Suddenly, she's sent to America to escape the devastation of London. Her grandmother's house is safe, but unfamiliar, especially as she discovers her parents have kept a tremendous secret. Rosemary and her family are Anishinaabe—and no one is supposed to know.

Far from home but newly connected to a once-hidden part of her family, Rosemary develops a close relationship with her grandmother... and a local boy whose love of gardening helps her to see the beauty in her unexpected circumstances.

**ANNA ROSE JOHNSON** is the author of *The Star That Always Stays* and *The Luminous Life of Lucy Landry*.



Ages 8-12  
304 pages • 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> x 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>  
March 18, 2025

## STARRY, STARRY HEIST

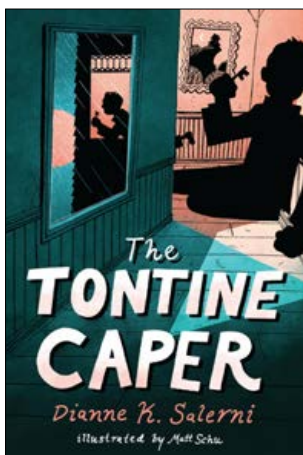
BY KAREN BRINER

“Funny, inventive, and exciting, *Starry, Starry Heist* raises some big questions about creativity, art and ethics while taking the reader on a wild romp through time and space.”—Charis Cotter, award-winning author of *The Ghost Road*

Eleven-year-old Max has it rough between tormentors at school and his sick mom at home. But then a strange, tuxedoed man with one shoe appears to Max from the future and divulges that Max’s mother’s fate is somehow entwined with that of Vincent van Gogh’s *The Starry Night*. Someone is after the famous painting... and the thief is not bound by the usual laws of time and space.

**Rights Sales:**

**Turkish/Cinar Yayinlari**



Ages 8-12  
208 pages • 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> x 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>  
B&W Art Throughout  
April 22, 2025

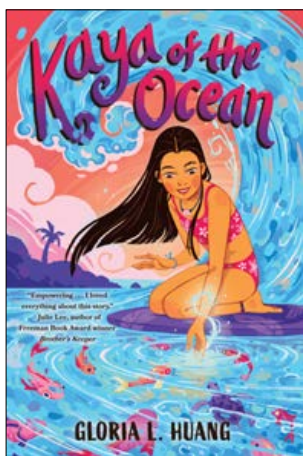
## THE TONTINE CAPER

BY DIANNE K. SALERNI, ART BY MATT SCHU

*Clue meets Knives Out in this twisty-turny comedic mystery.*

Eleven-year-old orphan Nico Lombardi has been unfairly indentured at a remote mountain inn for five years now. Just as he gathers the courage to escape, the inn gets booked by the remaining members of a “tontine,” an investment scheme where a cash prize is awarded to whomever lives the longest. During their stay, a chaotic race to control the fate of the tontine begins. Nico watches in horror as a series of comically disastrous events unfolds. Arch humor and an incredible cast of strange and calculating characters keep the pages turning in this Wes Anderson-esque mystery.

See page 31 of the backlist guide for another title by Salerni.



Ages 8-12  
224 pages • 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> x 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>  
January 7, 2025

## KAYA OF THE OCEAN

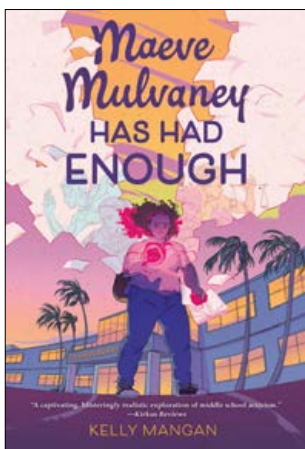
BY GLORIA L. HUANG

*Anxious Kaya is afraid of everything—but when she learns she is the descendent of a Chinese water goddess, she’ll have to master herself to master her powers.*

★ “[C]ompelling . . . Hand to readers of the ‘Rick Riordan Presents’ series, and tell them this is even better.”—*School Library Journal*

“Empowering . . . I loved everything about this story.”—Julie Lee, author of Freeman Book Award winner *Brother’s Keeper*





## MAEVE MULVANEY HAS HAD ENOUGH

BY KELLY MANGAN

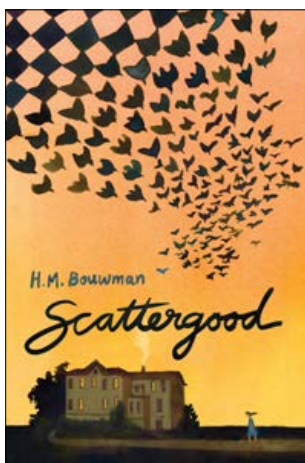
*Maeve Mulvaney goes from “family raincloud” to Feminist Superhero in this upper middle grade perfect for fans of Carrie Firestone.*

In the comic book version of fourteen-year-old Maeve's life, she's a brave superhero. In reality? Not so much. When a bully at school makes her life miserable over her weight (and a sexist teacher defends him), Maeve isn't sure what to do. Then Maeve hears that other students are being picked on, and decides to create a feminist superhero club to take action. But it turns out, fighting back without becoming the bully yourself is harder than it seems.

Ages 10-14

272 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

April 29, 2025



## SCATTERGOOD

BY H. M. BOUWMAN

*In rural Iowa in 1941, twelve-year-old Peggy's quiet life is turned upside down by refugee arrivals.*

"[A] brave, beautiful book, wise enough to reach for something beyond certainty."—*New York Times*

★ "An engaging, textured, and deeply humane coming-of-age novel."—*Kirkus Reviews*

★ "Bouwman takes a seemingly mundane setting and crafts a heartfelt bildungsroman that even adult readers will enjoy. . . This is a timeless coming-of-age novel that breathes new life into the middle-grade WWII genre."—*Booklist*

NP

Ages 10 & Up

320 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

January 21, 2025



## RABBIT RABBIT

BY DORI HILLESTAD BUTLER AND SUNSHINE BACON

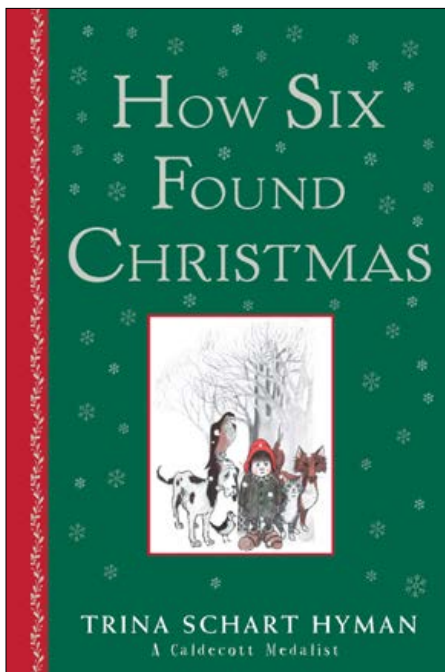
*A pair of cousins confront the secrets that destroyed their family in this upper middle grade told from dual perspectives.*

Alice and Bee are practically strangers when their estranged families reunite at a party. But their reunion doesn't last long—Bee's mother and grandfather are dead set on keeping the liberal faction of the family away from the conservatives. Bee and Alice grow closer despite their distance, determined to uncover the family secret. What happened all those years ago, and why did it tear their family apart? Just when they've started to make progress, COVID strikes. They watch as the world shuts down and their loved ones grow divided. Somehow, it's up to the twelve-year-olds to clean up the mess that the grown-ups have made.

Ages 10-14

336 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

April 15, 2025



NP

Ages 4-8  
32 pages • 5 x 8  
3-color Art Throughout  
September 9, 2025

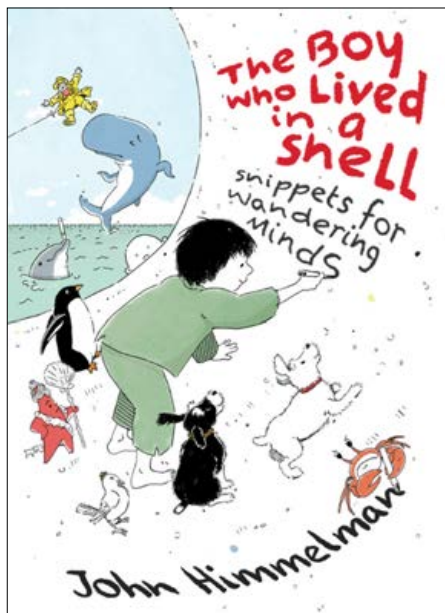
## HOW SIX FOUND CHRISTMAS

BY TRINA SCHAT HYMAN

*Enter the Great Snow Forest to discover what Christmas truly is in this beautifully-produced reissue of a holiday classic from Caldecott Medalist Trina Schart Hyman.*

Once there was a little girl who had never heard of Christmas. So she sets off into the snowy woods in search of it, gathering animal companions along the way. A timeless classic, this stunning reissue of Trina Schart Hyman's gentle, introspective holiday tale leaves readers with the greatest Christmas story of all: that Christmas is not only where you find it; it's what you make of it.

**TRINA SCHAT HYMAN** (1939-2004) was a renowned illustrator awarded one Caldecott Medal, three Caldecott Honors, and the Golden Kite Award.



MF

Ages 7-10  
128 pages • 6 x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
March 18, 2025  
Full-color Art Throughout

## THE BOY WHO LIVED IN A SHELL

BY JOHN HIMMELMAN

*From the venerable John Himmelman comes a collection of story poems perfect for fans of Shel Silverstein.*

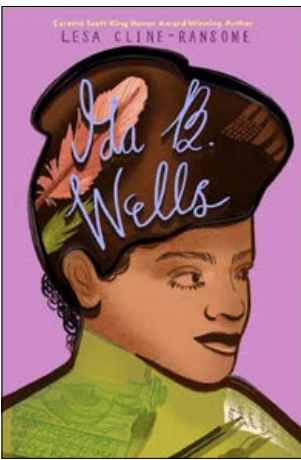
★ "Overflowing with oomph and pizzazz, this collection will take up space in children's minds for years to come." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"This marvelous collection had me laughing then smiling then sighing then laughing all over again." —**Chris Harris**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *I'm Just No Good at Rhyming*

A boy named Ivo lives in a giant snail shell on a beach. One day, a wave carries him out to sea. While he waits to be rescued, he makes the best of his time writing on the walls inside the shell.

**JOHN HIMMELMAN** is the author and/or illustrator of over eighty books for children, including *Bunjitsu Bunny's Best Move* and *Chickens to the Rescue*.





## IDA B. WELLS

BY LESA CLINE-RANSOME

*In 1862, Ida B. Wells was born into slavery. Today, her legacy lives on as a trailblazing journalist and activist. Celebrate the life and achievements of a Civil Rights pioneer in this definitive middle-grade biography from Newbery Honoree Lesa Cline-Ransome.*

The awe-inspiring true story of an activist icon who co-founded the NAACP, published her own newspaper, and fought for intersectionality within the suffragist movement—a trailblazer who was as important in her time as she remains today.

Ages 8-12

176 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

October 28, 2025

Manuscript available:  
end of March.

See page 37 of the backlist guide for more titles by Cline-Ransome.



## EATING TO SAVE THE PLANET

### HOW VEGANISM HELPS FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE

BY ANNE BROYLES, ART BY HANNAH LI

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

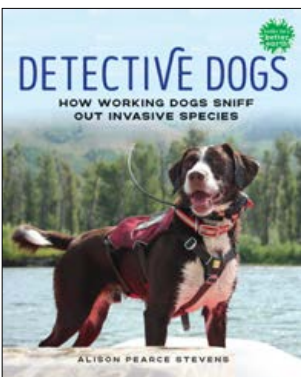
When we walk down the aisles of a grocery store, most of us don't think about all the steps it took for each item to get on the shelf. Or how those different steps might impact the environment and even our own health. With chapters that explore why we eat what we eat, the environmental impact of the meat industry, what terms like "vegan" and "plant-based" mean, and much more, *Eating to Save the Planet* is an accessible middle grade nonfiction title for curious eaters.

Ages 8-12

128 pages • 6 x 9

Full-color Spot Art

August 19, 2025



## DETECTIVE DOGS

### HOW WORKING DOGS SNIFF OUT INVASIVE SPECIES

BY ALISON PEARCE STEVENS

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

Environmental scientists are harnessing the olfactory abilities of working dogs to locate invasive species. Ecologist Alison Pearce Stevens' engaging and accessible narrative writing showcases ongoing conservation projects that use working dogs. Readers will learn more about the threats posed by these species, and about the way scientists work with dogs to locate and eliminate them.

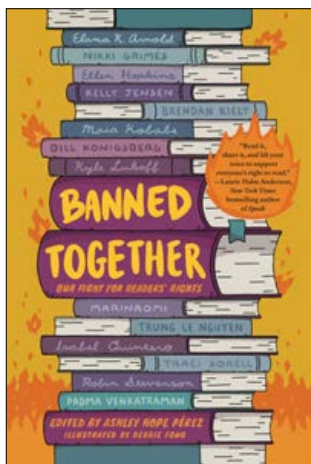
Ages 8-12

64 pages • 8 x 10

Full-color

Photographs

August 5, 2025



*A dazzling YA anthology that spotlights the transformative power of books, featuring the voices of 15 award-winning authors and illustrators.*

Ages 12 & Up  
304 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
2-color Art Throughout  
**March 4, 2025**

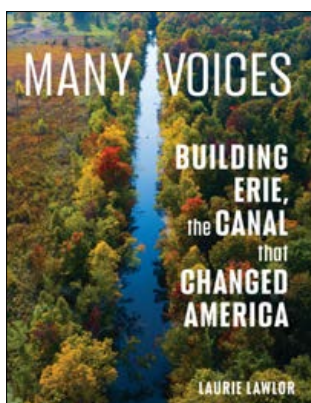
★ “An empowering and critically timely blueprint for action.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

★ “[M]ovingly reminds readers of the power they have against censorship.”—*Booklist*

★ “[A] call to action and a form of protest, using the power of words to inspire hope and unity.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“Give this to every young person to better equip them to stand up for their rights and their communities.”

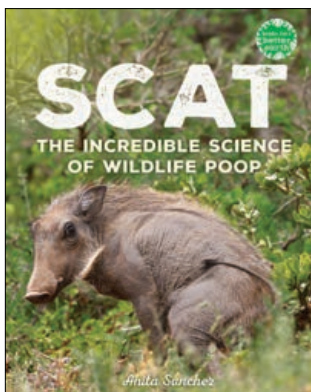
—Malinda Lo, National Book Award Winner and *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*



*This immersive photo book ferries readers through the past and present of the Erie Canal, from impossible idea to groundbreaking reality.*

Ages 10 & Up  
224 pages • 7 x 9  
Full-color Photographs Throughout  
**April 22, 2025**

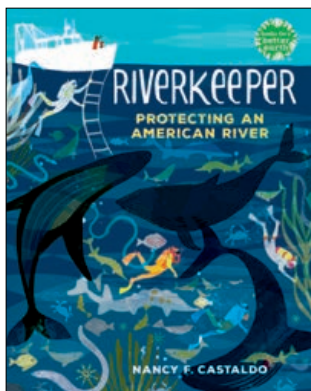
Award-winning nonfiction author Laurie Lawlor captures the landmark achievements of the Erie Canal, an innovating marvel of engineering that took eight years and nearly \$185 million dollars in today’s currency to complete. This contemporary history of the Erie Canal shines light on the untold stories surrounding its construction—discussing corporate greed, environmental devastation, poor working conditions, and its impact on the Haudenosaunee people.



*Discover how poop can help protect our planet!*

Ages 8-12  
96 pages • 7 x 9  
Full-color Photographs Throughout  
**April 1, 2025**

The poop of animals is full of surprising power: it can be food, shelter, or a way for creatures to communicate. For scientists, scat can reveal clues about how animals are responding to climate change. From researchers in India using tiger poop to track the endangered cat to scientists in Mexico using bat guano to help replant a forest destroyed by fire, *Scat* shows how scientists are getting creative when it comes to protecting ecosystems from climate change.



*Learn how you can help protect clean water around the globe!*

Ages 10 & Up  
128 pages • 7 x 9  
Full-color Photographs Throughout  
**April 22, 2025**

Every inch of the United States is in a river’s watershed. But in 1966, one of the most important watersheds was dying. With too much pollution to support animal life, America’s “First River” was in too deep—until a Riverkeeper, a pioneering group of environmental activists, fought to get rivers around the globe out of troubled waters. Nonfiction pro Nancy Castaldo showcases the group’s achievements and the intersection of science and activism.



Ages 7-11 • 160 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
 B&W Art Throughout  
 March 17, 2026

**Book #2 coming  
 Spring 2027!**

# MYSTERY IN THE GRAND CANYON

## SIR EDMUND OF THE WILD WEST #1

BY DUSTI BOWLING, ART BY BETH HUGHES

*A humorous and mildly haunted series  
 featuring a lovably pompous service dog who  
 uses his ghost-seeing abilities to solve mysteries.*

Edmund, a goldendoodle and seizure-alert dog of esteemed lineage is destined for life in a palace. Buckingham Palace, to be precise. He believes he is meant to be a Royal Guard.

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

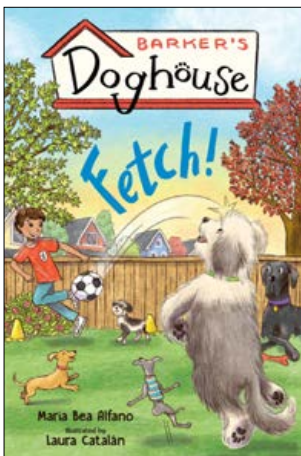
**DUSTI BOWLING** is the author of middle grade novels *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus*, *Momentous Events in the Life of a Cactus*, *24 Hours in Nowhere*, and *The Canyon's Edge*.

**BETH HUGHES** is an illustrator and concept artist. This is her debut.

# BARKER'S DOGHOUSE

BY MARIA BEA ALFANO, ART BY LAURA CATALÁN

*A boy finds his way in a new place with the help of some talking dogs.*



### Book #1: Fetch!

Ten-year-old Gio Barker is lonely in his new town. But one day, as he's hanging around his mom's doggy day care, he mistakes a dog biscuit for a human cookie, and suddenly he can talk to dogs! The day care dogs become the friends Gio desperately needs. They take it upon themselves to share wisdom and strategies that help Gio find his way in new social settings.

### Book #2: Leave It!

None of the daycare dogs are happy when they hear that Gio's mom will be taking in a foster puppy. They chew everything! But Gio, of course, has a special power to help the new pup get acclimated.



Ages 7-10

176 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

Three-color Art

November 11, 2025

**P+I**

176 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>

Three-color Art

May 27, 2025

**P+I**

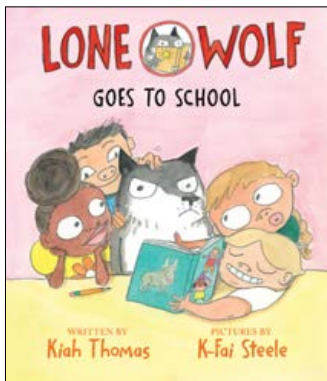
# LONE WOLF

BY KIAH THOMAS, ART BY K-FAI STEELE

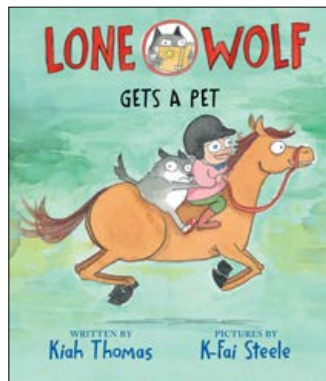
*Oscar the Grouch meets Frog & Toad in this hilarious illustrated early reader series about a cranky wolf on a quest to be left alone.*

Series Rights Sales (Books 1 + 2): ANZ/Hardie Grant

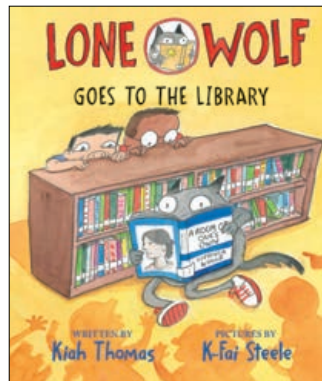
**NP** Ages 6-9 • 7 x 8 • Full-color Art Throughout



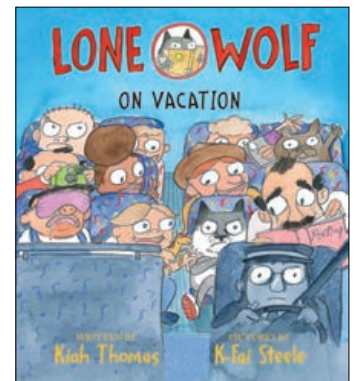
October 8, 2024  
56 pages



October 8, 2024  
48 pages



May 27, 2025  
48 pages



May 27, 2025  
48 pages

## Praise for *Lone Wolf Goes to School*:

A *Booklist* 2024 Editors' Choice

A *Kirkus Reviews* Best Book of the Year

★ “A charmer that’s sure to garner its protagonist a devoted following—much to his chagrin.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

★ “[S]tands out as a memorable, original character in the crowded field of early-reader books.”—*Booklist*

“[A] rare and funny character . . . Three cheers for Lone Wolf, and his hilarious quest to be alone in his own way.”—*Kate Beaton*, Eisner Award Winning creator of *Ducks* and *Princess and the Pony*

“Children will love Lone Wolf, and while Wolf would no doubt prefer children leave him alone and love something else, it’s great news for everybody else.”—*Mac Barnett*, *New York Times* Bestselling author of *The First Cat in Space Ate Pizza*

“Singularly brilliant—kids and adults will howl with laughter.”  
—*Greg Pizzoli*, three-time Geisel Award winner and creator of *Baloney and Friends*



# Graphic Novels & Comics





SAMPLE ART

## PAST PERFECT RADIOACTIVE

### A GRAPHIC NOVEL MEMOIR OF CHERNOBYL

BY YEVGENIA NAYBERG

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

Eleven-year-old Genya wants to be an artist. But making into a prestigious art school won't be easy, especially with the school's open-secret rule that no more than 1% of the student body can be Jewish. On April 26, 1986, Genya's police officer neighbor gets called to an emergency in a town she's never heard of: Chernobyl.

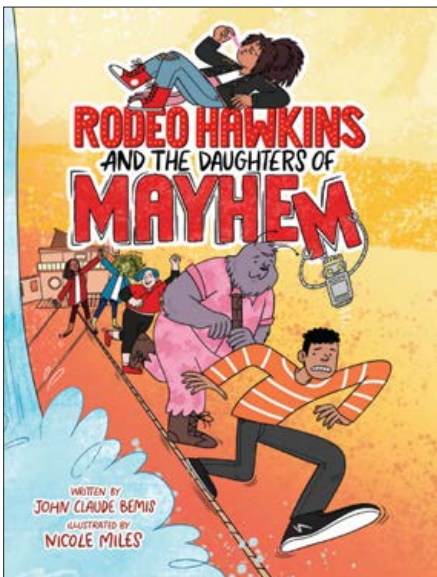
This is a deeply personal account of creator Yevgenia Nayberg's childhood. Young readers curious about life in the USSR and the fallout of the Chernobyl disaster will find ample details to devour, while those dreaming of a creative life will take inspiration from Genya's perseverance.

**YEVGENIA NAYBERG** is the recipient of multiple Sydney Taylor Book Awards and Honor awards. Her work includes *A Queen to the Rescue*, *Drop by Drop*, *A Party for Florine*, *Anya's Secret Society*, *Typewriter*, and *Mona Lisa in New York*.

See page 14 of the backlist guide for another title by Nayberg.

NP

Ages 8-12  
144 pages • 7 x 10  
Full-color Art Throughout  
April 14, 2026



## RODEO HAWKINS AND THE DAUGHTERS OF MAYHEM

BY JOHN CLAUDE BEMIS, ART BY NICOLE MILES

*Foster kid Sidney is thrilled to learn his destiny is to save the multiverse—until he discovers it's actually his destiny to destroy it—in this fantasy adventure graphic novel!*

Sidney Poblocki runs away from his foster home and gets recruited by an order of Paladins who need his help to defend the multiverse! However, his dream destiny is a lie. He's actually meant to destroy the multiverse. And his new Paladin friends?—They're liars who kidnapped him to take him out of commission... permanently. Now, Sidney's only hope of survival is a ragtag girl gang of cosmic menaces: Rodeo Hawkins and the Daughters of Mayhem. Together, they'll defeat the paladins, save the multiverse, and get into plenty of trouble along the way.

**JOHN CLAUDE BEMIS** is the author of *The Wooden Prince*, *Lord of Monsters*, the Clockwork Dark trilogy, *The Prince Who Fell from the Sky*, and *Flora and the Runaway Rooster*.

MF

Ages 9-12  
272 pages • 6<sup>1/4</sup> x 8<sup>1/4</sup>  
October 7, 2025  
Full-color Art Throughout

**Book #2: Rodeo Hawkins and the Sons of Disaster coming Summer 2026!**





Ages 10-14 • 304 pages • 6 x 8<sup>1/2</sup>  
 Full-color Art Throughout  
 September 2, 2025

## FIRST KISS WITH FANGS

BY MARKER SNYDER

*Thirteen-year-old Ivan is a tender-hearted vampire who prefers a plant-based diet. In his daydreams, he rejects his destiny and hangs out in the human world forever! But would it be worth it if it means hiding his truest self?*

Born into a family of vampires, cheerful Ivan loves sunshine, his friends are human, and he doesn't like eating meat. When Ivan's fangs come in, he's determined to hide them. He wants to stay in day school, with his human best friends, rather than transfer to vampire night school. That means he'll have to lie, but how hard can it be? Keeping his secret gets harder when Ivan gets a new lab partner, Damien. Ivan finds himself thinking about blood and heartbeats and vampire kisses... All. Day.

Fans of *Fake Blood* will sink their teeth into this graphic novel perfect for readers navigating first crushes, unpredictable emotions, and the perils of middle school. Featuring LGBTQ+ characters and a unique, homespun art style, Snyder's debut is fang-tastic.

**MARKER SNYDER** is an illustrator, designer, and graphic artist. He was formerly a curator and exhibition designer in NYC. This is his debut.



Ages 8-12 • 208 pages • 5<sup>1/2</sup> x 8  
 Full-color Art Throughout  
 January 27, 2026

## SERENDIPITY

BY GABBIE BENDA

*A sweetly humorous middle grade graphic novel about a girl who believes she is cursed.*

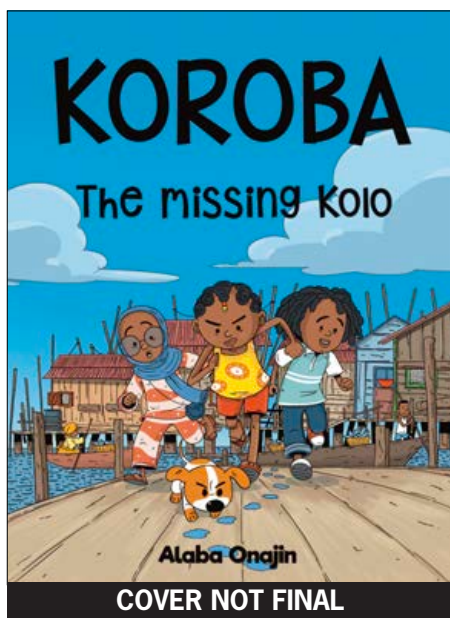
Serendipity is the luckiest kid in the world. She's class president, the lead in the play, and the star player on the basketball team. But when Serendipity accidentally knocks over a fortune-telling machine at the carnival, her fate is seemingly sealed. Bad luck forever. Serendipity is quick to brush off Zam Zam's message of doom. Those machines are a joke. But then, Serendipity experiences something she's never experienced before: a failed test, a missed hoop, and a drop in the class president polls—it's all downhill! Serendipity must find a way to reverse the curse.

In Gabbie Benda's debut, a loveable and somewhat impulsive girl fights to take charge of her destiny. A perfect story for overstressed overachievers looking for a gentle reminder that stepping back doesn't mean stepping down. In fact, sharing the spotlight with good friends is perhaps the luckiest thing of all.

**GABBIE BENDA** studied children's illustration and comics at VCUarts. This is her debut.



Full interior available: March.



Ages 7-11 • 144 pages • 6<sup>1/2</sup> x 8<sup>1/2</sup>  
 Full-color Art Throughout  
 February 17, 2026

**Book #2 coming  
 Spring 2027!**

# KOROBÁ

## THE CASE OF THE MISSING KOLO

BY ÀLÀBÁ ÒNÁJÌN

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

Ten-year-old Korobá knows everyone in Makoko, the Nigerian fishing village where she lives. Makoko is her playground, and she roams free with her best friends, Saidat and Joba, and her adorable dog, Popi. The last thing Korobá would expect in Makoko is a thief. Yet Saidat's wooden piggy bank—her Kolo—has been stolen. The children of Makoko save coins in their Kolo all year long, waiting to spend their money at the annual harvest festival. Now Saidat will have nothing. It's not fair!

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

ÀLÀBÁ ÒNÁJÌN is the Nigerian-born author-illustrator of *Waaa Waaa Goes Tawa!*. Ònájìn also illustrated an adult graphic novel, *On Ajayi Crowther Street*, which *GQ Magazine* named a “Best New Book.” *Korobá* is his first graphic novel for children.

# TABLE TITANS CLUB

BY SCOTT KURTZ

*A graphic novel series about a middle school Dungeons & Dragons club by an Eisner and Harvey Award winner.*

Praise for Book 1:

★ "A graphic novel series about a middle school Dungeons & Dragons club by an Eisner and Harvey Award winner."  
 —*Booklist*

"A fun new series about friendship and the power of imagination."  
 —*Kazu Kibuishi, New York Times* bestselling creator of *Amulet*



Ages 8-12 • 224 pages • 6 x 9  
 Full-color Art Throughout  
 March 5, 2024

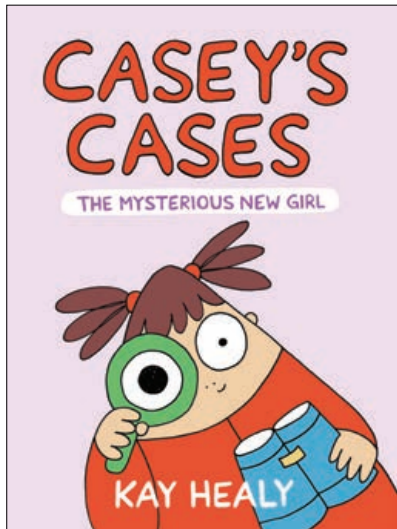


Ages 8-12 • 224 pages • 6 x 9  
 Full-color Art Throughout  
 January 1, 2026

SCOTT KURTZ is an Eisner and Harvey award-winning cartoonist who helped pioneer webcomics with his daily feature, PvP.

# CASEY'S CASES

BY KAY HEALY

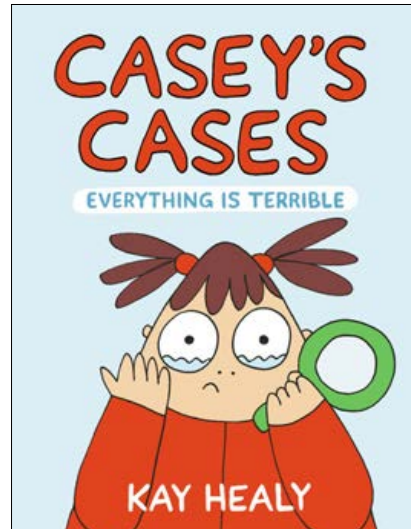


Ages 7-10 • 160 pages • 6 x 8  
Three-color Art Throughout  
February 11, 2025

Diary of a Wimpy Kid meets Nancy Drew in this hilarious young series featuring an aspiring detective who will solve any case... usually accidentally.

Praise for Book 1:

★ "Uncomplicated paneling and crisp line drawings punctuated by eye-catchingly bright hues encourage readers to join Casey as she endeavors to crack the case in this inviting series starter."  
—*Publishers Weekly*



Ages 7-10 • 208 pages • 6 x 8  
Three-color Art Throughout  
September 30, 2025

KAY HEALY has exhibited her narrative-based art installations internationally. This is her debut.

# SKY & TY

BY STEVE BREEN



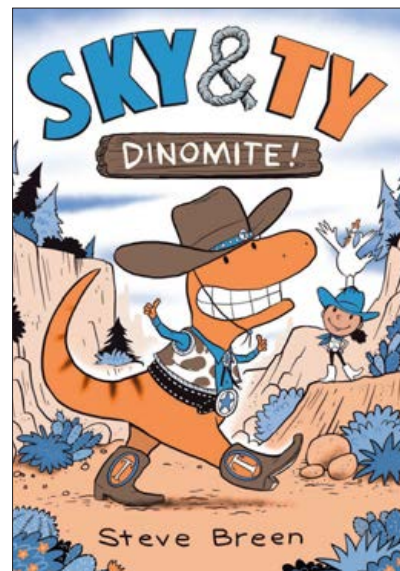
Pulitzer Prize-winning artist!

**P+I** Ages 6-9 • 64 pages • 6 x 9  
Three-color Art Throughout  
April 2, 2024

Meet the new cowgirl and her T. Rex partner delivering delightful laughs and rollicking adventures.

Praise for *Howdy, Partner!*:

★ "[E]nergetic and endearing . . . a satisfying series opener that leaves lots of room for ambling fun."  
—*School Library Journal*



**P+I** Ages 6-9 • 64 pages • 6 x 9  
Three-color Art Throughout  
April 8, 2025

STEVE BREEN is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist. His picture books include *Stick*, *Violet the Pilot*, *Pug and Doug*, and *Woodpecker Wants a Waffle*.



Ages 5-8 • 80 pages • 6 x 8  
 Three-color Art Throughout  
 July 22, 2025

# TWO VAMPIRE CATS PUMPKIN AND BEETLE #1

BY JANNIE HO

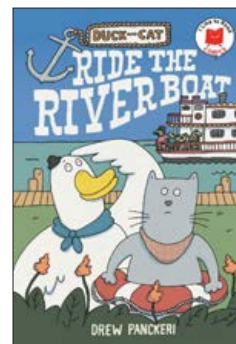
*Meet Pumpkin and Beetle, two vampire cat best friends, as they explore their cozy-spooky town together in this early graphic novel.*

One night after school, Pumpkin and Beetle discover everyone in Hallowsville is reading the latest Frightfuls comic. Everyone except them, that is. When they check their wallets, they only have a quarter and a bug. Determined not to miss out, they brainstorm all sorts of ways to make money. Will their silly schemes work in time?

JANNIE HO is the author and illustrator of *The Lost Mitten* and the illustrator of *Mitzi and the Big Bad Nosy Wolf*.

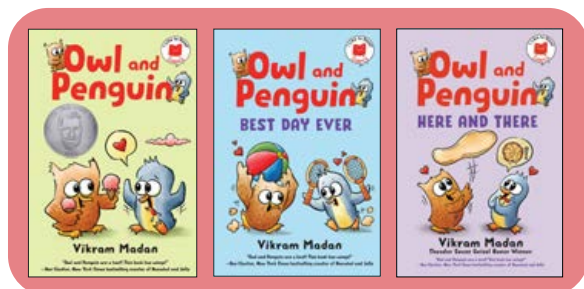
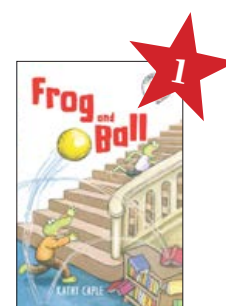
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*I Like to Read® Comics are perfect for kids who are challenged by or unengaged in reading. Filled with eye-catching art, humor, and terrific stories, these comics provide unique reading experiences for growing minds.*



# I LIKE TO READ COMICS<sup>®</sup>

*Browse the full collection!*



**Rights Sales (Books 1 & 2):**

**Catalan/Corimbo • Spanish/Corimbo**



**All books:**  
Ages 4-8 • 40 pages • 6 x 9 • Full-color Art Throughout

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