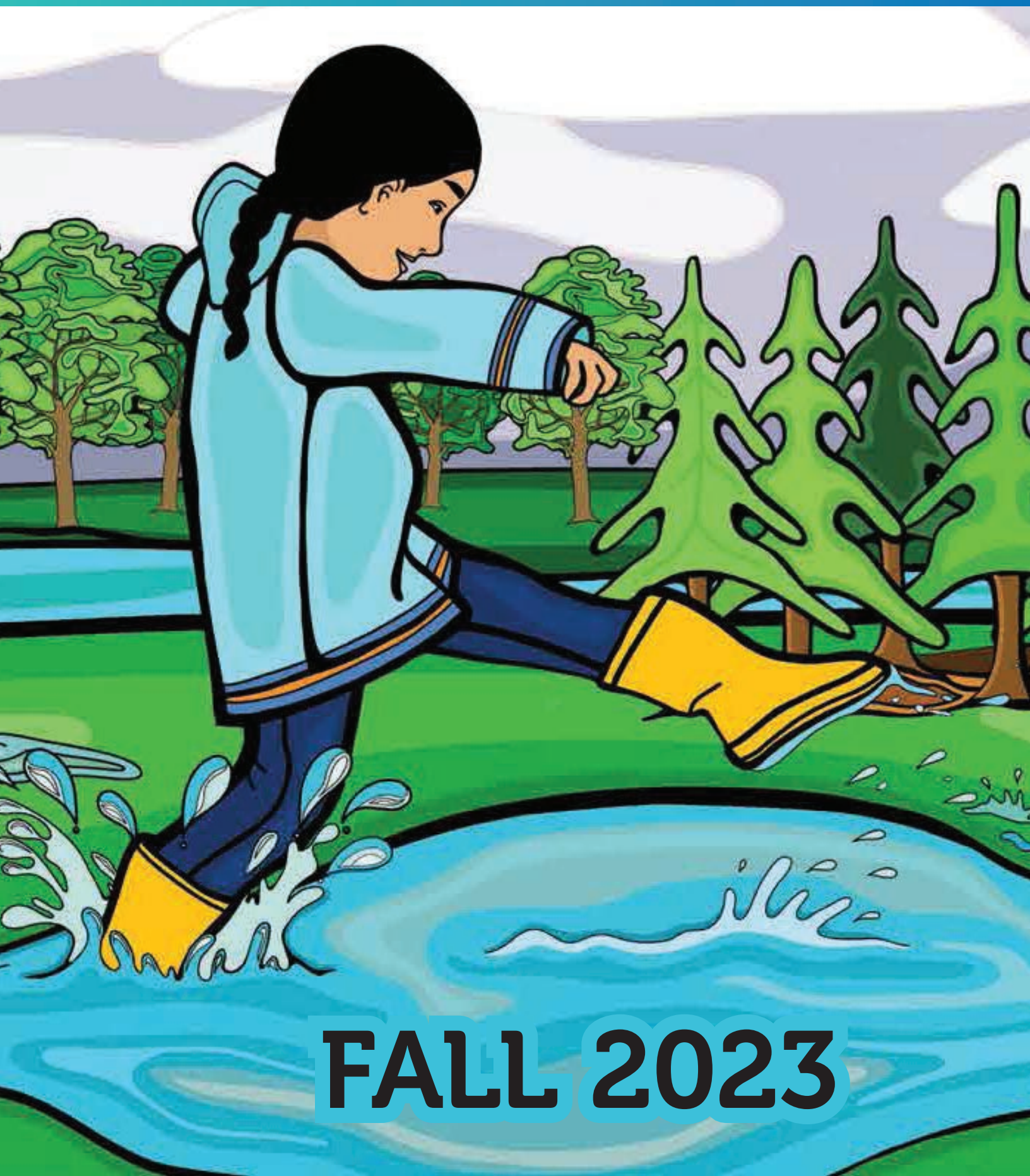


50
YEARS



Kids Can Press



FALL 2023

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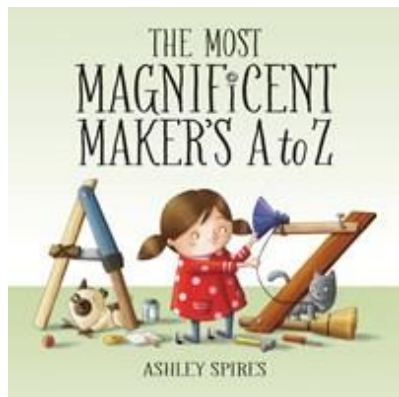
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Hardcover

32 Pages
Carton Qty: 40
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
JUV009010
Series: -
9 in H | 9 in W

The Most Magnificent Maker's A to Z

Ashley Spires

Summary

This latest addition to The Most Magnificent series highlights all the words little makers need to know.

In this delightful twist on a vocabulary book, the beloved characters from *The Most Magnificent Thing* walk with readers from A to Z, defining all the words they need to know about making. It perfectly captures the ups ("I is for IDEA. A gift from the imagination that wants to be made") and the downs ("P is for PATIENCE. Most things don't work the first time ... or the third time ... or even the twelfth time") all makers face and includes kid-perfect explanations of key concepts ("B is for BRAINSTORM. When ideas of all shapes and sizes rain onto the page"). It's a fun and clever alphabet journey, sure to inspire magnificent making of every kind!

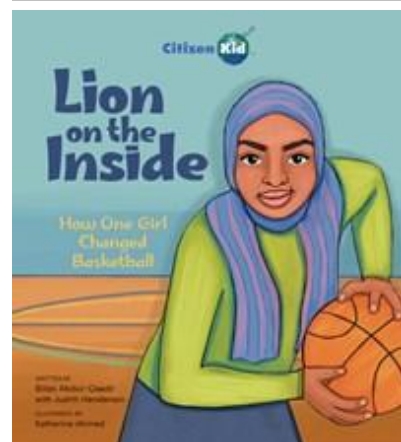
Fans of the first two Most Magnificent books will be thrilled to discover the wit and wisdom their favorite girl and her dog have to offer in this new title. Bestselling and award-winning author-illustrator Ashley Spires brings her one-of-a-kind humor, empathy and keen understanding of human nature to this informational picture book, providing children with vocabulary to help them navigate the creative process. It's an excellent motivational tool that showcases a growth mindset; the importance of imagining, innovating and making mistakes; and the character traits of perseverance and resilience. The first book in the series was adapted into an award-winning animated short film in 2019, and *Millie Magnificent*, an animated TV series based on the books, is currently in production for 2024.

Contributor Bio

Ashley Spires is the author and illustrator of many books including the bestselling *The Most Magnificent Thing*, *The Thing Lou Couldn't Do* and the *Binky the Space Cat* series. She is a drinker of tea, eater of candy and lover of animals. When she is not making books, she enjoys yoga, jogging and fostering orphan kittens for her local shelter. Ashley lives just outside Vancouver, British Columbia, with her dog and far too many felines.

Illustrations





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Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
JNF007120
Series: CitizenKid
10 in H | 9 in W

Lion on the Inside

How One Girl Changed Basketball

Bilqis Abdul-Qaadir, Judith Henderson, Katherine Ahmed

A Muslim American basketball star is forced to make a difficult choice in this true story about breaking barriers. Bilqis was born to play basketball. At three, she has her own hoop. By seventeen, she's the star of her varsity team and soon headed to college on a full scholarship, where she will be the first woman to play in a hijab in NCAA history. She is even invited to play basketball with President Obama at the White House. But at key points in her basketball career Bilqis faces rules that require her to choose between her Muslim faith and playing on the court. When international headgear regulations force her to make the heartbreaking decision to give up the game, Bilqis leads a full-court press to have the rule reversed, advocating for Muslim girls and all girls and women in sport. A modern hero: kids will be thrilled by her skill and inspired by her conviction.

Summary

A Muslim American girl at the top of her game makes a difficult choice in this powerful and beautifully told true story about breaking barriers.

Bilqis Abdul-Qaadir was born to play basketball. At three, she has her own hoop. By seventeen, she's the star player on her school's varsity team. On the day of the playoffs, though, the referee says she can't play while wearing her hijab. Her teammates refuse to play, the crowd shouts its support and the referee relents. With that game, Bilqis becomes the all-time lead scorer in Massachusetts State history and goes on to play college ball, where she is the first woman to play in a hijab in the NCAA - she even plays basketball with President Obama at the White House!

The story follows Bilqis into adulthood and her heartbreaking decision to walk away from a professional basketball career when the rules once again won't allow her to wear a hijab. Bilqis becomes an activist, fighting for years on the international stage advocating for young Muslim women, and eventually the rule is overturned. Written in free verse in a voice that captures the cadence of the game, this picture book biography, coauthored by Bilqis and award-winning writer Judith Henderson, is both a love poem to the sport of basketball and an inspiring story about how one person can effect change. Richly colored illustrations by Katherine Ahmed add further emotional depth to the story.

This book will spark discussions about respect, beliefs, values, culture and discrimination. Back matter includes biographical information, photos and a list of sources for further exploration. *Lion on the Inside* is the first book in the CitizenKid collection that is geared to younger readers ages 5 to 8.

Contributor Bio

Bilqis Abdul-Qaadir first picked up a basketball at the age of three, and she's been playing ever since. Living in a practicing-Muslim household, as she grew older, Bilqis followed her religious beliefs. She began wearing a hijab, a traditional head covering for Muslim women, and practiced modesty on the court by covering all skin except her hands. Bilqis had a very successful high school career, scoring over 3000 points and breaking both men's and women's scoring records in Massachusetts --- a record that was formerly held by Olympic Gold Medalist and 1999 WNBA All-Star, Rebecca Lobo. Bilqis played college basketball at the University of Memphis for four years, from 2009 to 2013, and graduated magna cum laude with a degree in exercise science. Her goal was to continue playing professionally in Europe, but the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) rule prohibiting headgear larger than five inches ended that dream. Unwilling to play without her hijab, Bilqis chose faith over basketball and became an advocate. Working alongside other Muslim players, Bilqis raised her voice for the next generation and effectively forced FIBA to lift the ban. Bilqis now works to pave the way for other Muslim women in sports. Her efforts include "Muslim Girls Hoop Too" --- an online campaign to raise awareness for Muslim women in sports, with an emphasis on

female basketball players. Bilqis lives in Memphis, Tennessee, with her family. Lion on the Inside is her story.

Judith Henderson does a lot of stuff. She is an author, an Emmy Award-winning composer, and wrote the theme song for the PBS show, Arthur. She is a TV producer, and she also illustrates. Judith's three-book series Big Words Small Stories is now airing as an animated series. Her other books include Dee and Apostrofee, AAAlligator! and This Is a Dog Book! Judith has several new books which will be published in 2023 and 2024, including Willa and Wade the series and Lion on the Inside. Judith lives in Montreal, Quebec.

Katherine Ahmed was born and raised in New York and converted to the Muslim faith as a teenager. She attended an arts high school in Florida and earned a BA at The New School. Before launching her career as an illustrator, Katherine was the manager of a multicultural Muslim Sunday School in New York City. In 2021, she was awarded the We Need Diverse Books illustration mentorship. Katherine was a contributing illustrator to The Reading Adventure and Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls: 100 Inspiring Young Changemakers, and has had her work published in Cricket magazine. Lion on the Inside is her first picture book. Katherine lives in New Jersey with her husband and two daughters.

Illustrations





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Juvenile Fiction / People & Places
JUV030090
Series: -
8.5 in H | 10 in W

Benjamin's Thunderstorm

Melanie Florence, Hawlii Pichette

In this rainy-day story, a thunderstorm evokes a boy's family traditions. Benjamin loves the rain. He loves splashing through puddles and watching a rainbow's colors as they ripple around his feet. But most of all, Benjamin loves thunder. To him, thunder --- piyêsiwak --- sounds like his grandfather's drum. It calls to him, like songs his grandfather plays while his father and other powwow dancers spin and step in time. Benjamin listens to the thunder and imagines himself as a powwow dancer. He spins, taps his feet, lifts his knees. Faster and faster he twirls, filled with the rhythm of piyêsiwak. Children will appreciate this timeless celebration of the joys of nature and family traditions.

Summary

A thunderstorm evokes a boy's family traditions, in this rainy-day story from award-winning author Melanie Florence.

Benjamin loves the rain. He loves splashing through puddles in his bright yellow rain boots and watching the colors of a rainbow in the water as they ripple around his feet. But most of all, Benjamin loves thunder. To him, thunder — piyêsiwak — sounds like his grandfather's drum. It calls to him, like the songs his grandfather plays while his father and other powwow dancers spin and step in time to the drumbeat. As Benjamin hears the thunder rumble overhead, he imagines himself as a powwow dancer. He spins, he taps his feet and he lifts his knees. Faster and faster he twirls, delighted by and filled with the rhythm of piyêsiwak.

This artfully written story from award-winning author Melanie Florence celebrates both the universal joys of playing in the rain and the connections to family traditions that center and ground us. Elements of Cree powwow culture and Cree words for colors and weather are interwoven into the story, with a pronunciation guide in the back matter. The vibrant and eye-catching art by Hawlii Pichette, inspired by the scenery of northern Ontario, adds drama to the pages. This inviting picture book makes a perfect read-aloud for a rainy day, as well as an excellent introduction to Cree cultural traditions, local communities and experiencing nature firsthand.

Contributor Bio

Melanie Florence is an award-winning writer of Cree and Scottish heritage based in Toronto, Ontario. She was close to her grandfather as a child, a relationship that sparked her interest in writing about Indigenous themes and characters. She is the author of several books for young readers and has won awards including the TD Canadian Children's Literature Award and the Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award.

Hawlii Pichette is a Mushkego Cree (Treaty 9) urban mixed-blood artist and illustrator. Born and raised in the small community of Cochrane, Ontario, she is deeply influenced by her culture, upbringing and the natural world. She lives in London, Ontario.

Illustrations





Next Door

Deborah Kerbel, Isaac Liang

A sweet wordless story about a boy's unexpected encounters in his neighborhood. In this wordless picture book, a Deaf boy and his mother enjoy a walk through their community, greeting neighbors, spying a bird's nest in a tree, buying cookies at the grocery store. Later, they visit their new neighbors, a woman and her daughter, who are recent immigrants to the country. Although the girl is shy, and the two kids speak different languages --- American Sign Language (ASL) and Arabic --- they find a way to communicate and become fast friends. A celebration of the art of appreciating the world and the people around us, and finding common ground, no matter our differences.

Summary

A boy has some unexpected encounters in his neighborhood in this wordless book about celebrating differences and building bridges.

In this wordless picture book, a Deaf boy and his mother enjoy a walk through their community. Together, they greet their neighbors, stop by the playground, spy a bird's nest in a tree and buy cookies at the grocery store. Later, they visit their new neighbors, a woman and her daughter, who have only recently immigrated from another country. Although the girl is shy, and the two kids speak different languages — American Sign Language (ASL) and Arabic — find a way to communicate and become fast friends.

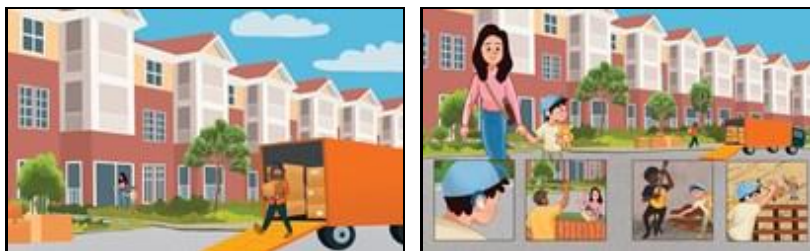
This sweet story by critically acclaimed author Deborah Kerbel explores the art of appreciating the world and the people around us and finding points of connection. Deaf illustrator Isaac Liang lends his lived experience to the visual story, choosing details and perspectives that reveal the world as it's experienced by the boy. At the heart of the story is a timely message about breaking down barriers and finding common ground, no matter our differences. Wordless picture books engage children's attention to detail as they follow the narrative of the story in the pictures, building their visual literacy and critical thinking skills. This book has curriculum connections to social studies lessons on community building and immigration, as well as to the character education values of empathy and kindness. It also models the practice of welcoming newcomers to our communities. A few ASL signs are demonstrated and translated within the story.

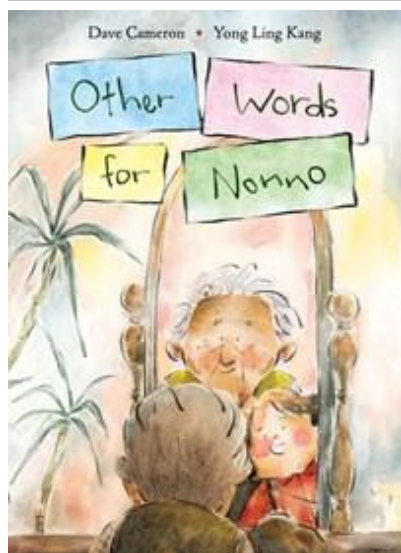
Contributor Bio

Deborah Kerbel is the critically acclaimed author of numerous books for young readers. Her titles include the wordless picture book *Whirl* and the middle grade novels *Feathered* and *Under the Moon*, which was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award. Deborah lives with her family in Thornhill, Ontario.

Isaac Liang is a Deaf illustrator based in Singapore. Through his illustrations and animation, he tells uniquely visual stories. His clients include children's book publishers, Singapore Art Museum and The Singapore Association for the Deaf. To learn more, visit at www.isaacliang.com

Illustrations





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Juvenile Fiction / Family
JUV013030
Series: -
10.5 in H | 7.5 in W

Other Words for Nonno

Dave Cameron, Yong Ling Kang

A girl and her grandfather bond over a shared love of words. On their weekly walks, Jill and Nonno love to play their clever word game. "Hummingbird," Jill says. "Sugar-drinker," Nonno says. "Seaplane," Jill says. "I do see a plane!" Nonno replies. But one day, Jill notices Nonno isn't interested in their game and is acting differently. Instead of silly words, he simply repeats the things that Jill says. When Jill asks her mother what's wrong, she says Nonno can't always find the words he's looking for. Is there anything Jill can do? A heartwarming story about making time for those we love and finding our own way of helping them - even when it seems like there's nothing we can do.

Summary

A girl and her grandfather bond over a shared love of words in this heartwarming story about changing relationships.

On their weekly walks, Jill and her Nonno love to play with words. "Hummingbird," says Jill. "Sugar-drinker," says Nonno. "Seaplane," says Jill. "I *do* see a plane!" replies Nonno. But one day, Jill notices Nonno is acting differently. He isn't interested in their usual game and simply repeats what Jill says. When Jill asks her mother what's wrong, her mother says Nonno isn't running out of words, he just can't always find the words he's looking for. Is there anything Jill can do to help?

Award-winning journalist Dave Cameron movingly captures the special bond between a grandchild and grandparent in this lovely picture book story. *Other Words for Nonno* is about making time for those we love and finding our own way of helping them, even when it seems like there's nothing we can do. The book ends positively, with a message of hope. The clever word game Jill and Nonno play will inspire readers to try it themselves or to invent their own word games. Yong Ling Kang's illustrations use mostly pastel-toned watercolors to convey the characters' emotions. An excellent choice for children with relatives experiencing memory loss, this book contains strong curriculum ties to social-emotional learning. Jill models the character education values of empathy and initiative when she creates a unique way to help Nonno find his words.

Contributor Bio

Dave Cameron is an award-winning journalist whose work has appeared in the *Walrus*, *Reader's Digest* and *Cottage Life*. He is the author of the picture books *Wingmaker* and *We Are Many*. Dave lives with his family in Hamilton, Ontario.

Yong Ling Kang was born in Malaysia and grew up in Singapore. She is fascinated by storytelling, and has honed her craft through picture books, manga, cartoons and formal schooling in an animation program. Yong Ling has illustrated several picture books, including *Up and Adam*, *The Midnight Club*, *This House Is Home*, *Tanna's Owl* and *William's Getaway*. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.

Illustrations





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 Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
 Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
 JUV039060
 Series: -
 10 in H | 9 in W

Beatrice and Barb

Kate Jenks Landry, Vivian Mineker

A young girl must find a way to save her most unlikely pet. Beatrice desperately wants a pet. Her mom has other ideas. No dog. No cat. No hedgehog. They finally reach a compromise, and Beatrice gets ... a Venus flytrap named Barb. Being a good pet owner, Beatrice makes the best of things. She takes Barb for walks and plays fetch. Only, now, despite all the love and care, Barb is starting to look sick. Beatrice knows she has to save Barb. But how? A kid-perfect model of being there for friends --- no matter who (or what!) they are!

Summary

In this heartfelt story of friendship, a young girl is determined to save her most unlikely pet.

Beatrice desperately wants a pet of her own. Her mom has other ideas. No dog. No cat. No hedgehog. They finally reach a compromise, and Beatrice gets ... a Venus flytrap. Being a good sport, Beatrice makes the best of things. She gives her new friend a name, Barb. She does all the things with Barb that good pet owners do, such as taking walks and playing fetch. Only, now, despite all the love and care, Barb is starting to look sick, with black spots on her leaves and some parts of her turning mushy. Beatrice knows she has to find a way to save Barb. But how?

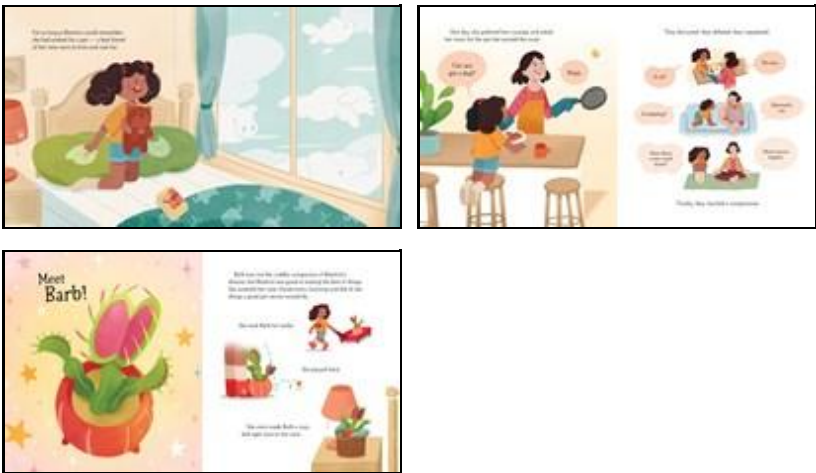
The debut picture book from author Kate Jenks Landry offers a universal and powerful message about how to take care of those we love. It also celebrates differences, unique friendships and what makes each of us special (like how Barb needs to eat bugs to survive!). This story has strong curriculum connections to social-emotional learning and offers excellent character education lessons on caring, perseverance and responsibility. Vivian Mineker’s illustrations are imbued with the soft greens of plant life and beautifully convey the warmth and affection at the heart of the story.

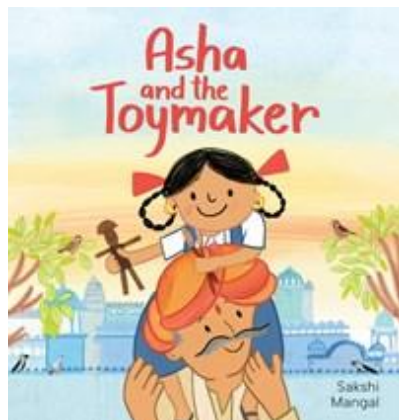
Contributor Bio

Kate Jenks Landry wrote her first story when she was five years old, and she's been crafting fictional worlds ever since. A graduate of the creative writing program at the University of Toronto, she works as an educator and writer of stories for young readers. Beatrice and Barb is her debut picture book. Kate lives with her husband, their two daughters and their dog in Kitchener, Ontario.

Vivian Mineker is a freelance illustrator whose work can be found in the picture books All Cats Welcome and The Little Coven. Nature is one of her biggest sources of inspiration, especially when she's on a walk with her dog, Darlie. Born in Taiwan and raised in Portland, Oregon, Vivian now makes her home in Amsterdam.

Illustrations





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Hardcover

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Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Girls & Women
JUV014000
Series: -
9.5 in H | 9 in W

Asha and the Toymaker

Sakshi Mangal

A heartwarming story about the value of art. Asha's papa makes and sells wooden toys to pay for her to go to school. But Papa struggles to find buyers. And this makes him worry. He worries Asha's life will also be a struggle unless she focuses on her schoolwork, which he never had the chance to do. Can Asha's art help Papa? Will he let her try? Kid artists will be inspired by the power of art to change minds and hearts!

Summary

A heartwarming story about the value of art, set in the evocative Blue City of India.

Asha's papa makes and sells wooden toys to pay for her to go to school. But Papa struggles to find buyers. And this makes him worry. He worries Asha's life will also be a struggle unless she focuses on her schoolwork, which he never had the chance to do. Can Asha's art help Papa? Will he let her try?

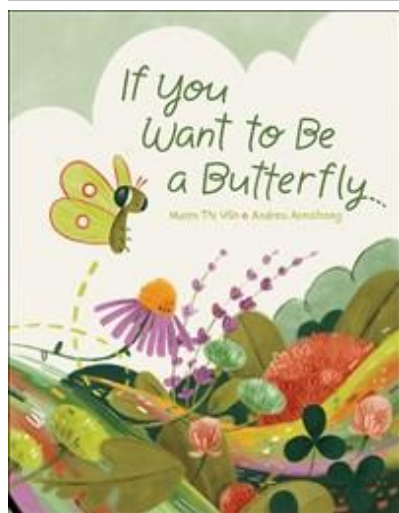
Author and illustrator Sakshi Mangal drew inspiration from her childhood in India for this sweet picture book. It celebrates the life-changing power of art in the real world, and offers children an opportunity to explore the concept of color and the influence of the visual arts in their everyday lives. Asha's touching generosity and resourcefulness also show how even a very young child can make a difference and provide a wonderful character education lesson on initiative. Mangal's colorful art depicts the Indian city of Jodhpur, known as the Blue City for its many buildings painted a distinctive shade of blue.

Contributor Bio

Sakshi Mangal is naturally drawn toward the fascinating world of children's book illustration--- the bold colors and scribbly lines inspire her work. Drawing inspiration from her own childhood, she finds immense joy in imagining the world through children's eyes where bears are getting ready for a tea party and the squirrels are dancing to Spring. She grew up in the colorful city of Mumbai, India, and then moved to England to complete a master's degree from the Cambridge School of Art in Children's Book Illustration. Since then, she has been illustrating and developing picture books from her home studio in Vancouver, Canada, where she spends her day creating new book ideas and working on her favorite picture book projects. Every year, Sakshi spends months in her hometown, Mumbai, to seek inspiration from its rich cultural heritage, the colorful bazaars and centuries-old streets, and to explore the mouthwatering Indian cuisine.

Illustrations





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Hardcover

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Carton Qty: 32
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
JUV002300
Series: -
11 in H | 8.5 in W

If You Want to Be a Butterfly

Muon Thi Van, Andrea Armstrong

An innovative exploration of a butterfly's life cycle --- in reverse. "If you want to be a butterfly, then arise, unfurl and welcome the waiting world," begins this book's narrator. Readers will flit from flower to flower with an adorable butterfly ... hold on tight with a chrysalis through all sorts of weather ... munch away with a greedy little caterpillar ... sit very, very still and dream big with a teeny tiny egg. It's a magical journey back in time, that ends ... at the beginning! Imaginations will be sparked by the active depictions --- freeing the butterfly in every child.

Summary

From acclaimed author Muon Thi Van comes an innovative exploration of a butterfly's life cycle — in reverse.

"If you want to be a butterfly, then arise, unfurl and welcome the waiting world," the narrator of this playful book begins. Readers will flit from flower to flower with an adorable butterfly ... hold on tight with a chrysalis through all sorts of weather ... munch away with a greedy little caterpillar ... sit very, very still and dream big with a teeny tiny egg. It's a magical journey back in time, ending up ... at the beginning!

Award-winning author Muon Thi Van's lyrical language and use of the second person make this delightful picture book a perfect choice for interactive read-alouds, sure to spark the imagination and free the butterfly in every child. Lively and engaging, it promotes curiosity, observation, interpretation and discussion. Charming illustrations by Andrea Armstrong add personality to the butterfly that befits each stage of its development. This is a unique and captivating introduction to a key life science curriculum topic. The book ends with a full description with illustrations of the butterfly's life cycle that highlights the important role butterflies play in ecosystems.

Contributor Bio

Muon Thi Van loves to read books of all shapes and sizes. She first began reading yellow-spined hardbacks about a certain girl detective before graduating to longer novels and then picture books (it's true, she doesn't remember reading picture books as a young child). So few books reflected her formative experiences, though, that she desired to bring new and different stories into the world. Muon has written many picture books for children, including *Wishes*, *If You Were Night* and *One Is a Lot*, and her books have received many distinctions and awards. She lives in Northern California with her family.

Illustrator Andrea Armstrong is an artist based in Vancouver, British Columbia. She specializes in character-driven art, children's book illustration, portraiture and, more recently, animation.

Illustrations





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Juvenile Fiction / Media Tie-In
JUV027000
Series: Elinor Wonders Why
8 in H | 8 in W

Elinor Wonders Why: The Mystery of the Zigzag Plant

Jorge Cham, Daniel Whiteson

Elinor and her friends become plant detectives in this first Elinor Wonders Why picture book! When Elinor and Olive check on their class plants before leaving school for the weekend, everything looks good. But when the friends get back on Monday, they discover one of the plants has grown in a zigzag - up, then to the side, then up again. Their teacher said most plants only grow up, toward the sun. So, what happened to this one? Could it have something to do with how Ari knocked into the table - and shook the plants - when practicing his backflips? Science sleuths will love following the plant clues that grow right before their eyes!

Summary

Elinor and her friends become plant detectives in this *Elinor Wonders Why* picture book for young children.

Elinor and Olive check on their class plants before they leave school for the weekend. The plants have sprouted since they were planted as seeds. Now they're one crayon tall! The friends are pleased with their progress. But when Elinor and Olive get back to school on Monday, they discover that one of the plants has grown in a zigzag - up, then to the side, then up again. Their teacher, Ms. Mole, told them most plants only grow up, toward the sun. So, what could have happened to this one?

Young children will have their curiosity piqued and their science knowledge expanded in this *Elinor Wonders Why* picture book, based on the Daytime Emmy-nominated PBS KIDS series of the same name created by Jorge Cham and Daniel Whiteson. By asking questions, making observations and drawing conclusions, lovable characters Elinor, Olive and Ari figure out that the pot was knocked over just before the weekend, so the plant had to change direction to keep growing up - mystery solved! Extra plant facts, a key vocabulary word and a simple activity in the back matter broaden the content. This entertaining read doubles as a resource for early life science explorations of growth and changes in plants, the needs of living things and the characteristics of living things.

Contributor Bio

Jorge Cham is an engineer-turned-cartoonist, writer and producer. He is the creator of the web comic strip Piled Higher and Deeper (PHD Comics), which he started as a graduate student at Stanford University. Together with Daniel Whiteson, Jorge created and produces the PBS KIDS series Elinor Wonders Why. Jorge and Daniel have also co-written two books for adults, *We Have No Idea: A Guide to the Unknown Universe* and *Frequently Asked Questions About the Universe*, and they host the podcast Jorge and Daniel Explain the Universe on iHeartRadio. Jorge's debut middle-grade series, *Oliver and the Great Big Universe*, is forthcoming from Abrams. Jorge lives in California.

Daniel Whiteson is a professor of physics at the University of California, Irvine. Together with Jorge Cham, Daniel created and produces the PBS KIDS series Elinor Wonders Why. Daniel and Jorge have also co-written two books for adults, *We Have No Idea: A Guide to the Unknown Universe* and *Frequently Asked Questions About the Universe*, and they host the podcast Jorge and Daniel Explain the Universe on iHeartRadio. Daniel lives in California.

Illustrations





Elinor Wonders Why: The Seed of an Idea

Jorge Cham, Daniel Whiteson

Elinor and her friends solve a “sticky” mystery, in this latest title in the series. Ari's cool new watch makes a *skrrrrtch* sound when he opens the strap, and then he can just press it closed again. Neither part of the strap is sticky, so how does it work? Elinor, Ari and Olive decide to investigate, starting with determining what else the material sticks to. While they're searching outside, some spiky seeds get stuck on Ari's sweater. Hmm, they make the same sound as the watch strap when Elinor pulls them off! Could they be a clue to unraveling the mystery? Curious minds will be hooked, as they learn that nature has given us some great ideas!

Summary

Elinor and her friends solve a “sticky” mystery in this picture book based on the PBS KIDS series.

Elinor is fascinated by the strap on Ari's cool new watch. It makes a *skrrrrtch* sound when he opens it, and then he can just press it closed again. “The two parts stick together like tape, but they aren't sticky!” Elinor says. How does it work? She just has to figure it out! With the help of Ari and Olive, Elinor decides to investigate which other things the material on the watch strap sticks to - the rug, a sweater - and which it doesn't - everything else, it seems. Then, while they're searching outside, some spiky seeds get stuck on Ari's sweater. Elinor discovers they make the same sound as the watch strap when she pulls them off. Could the seeds be a clue to unraveling the mystery?

Based on the Daytime Emmy-nominated PBS KIDS series *Elinor Wonders Why* from creators Jorge Cham and Daniel Whiteson, this picture book is an excellent choice for wannabe inventors and curious junior scientists alike. It highlights how nature has given humans some great ideas, as the characters learn how Velcro works and how it was invented. The back matter includes fun facts about other inventions inspired by nature, a key vocabulary word and a simple activity to explore further. A thoroughly entertaining read, this book also works for lessons on structures and inventions and their connections to nature, as well as on the characteristics of living things.

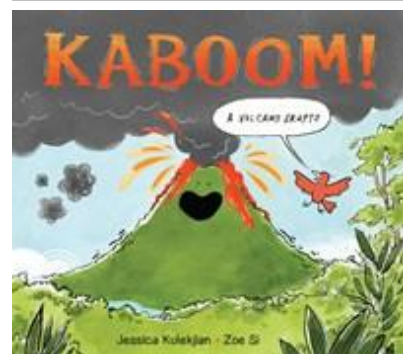
Contributor Bio

Jorge Cham is an engineer-turned-cartoonist, writer and producer. He is the creator of the web comic strip *Piled Higher and Deeper* (PHD Comics), which he started as a graduate student at Stanford University. Together with Daniel Whiteson, Jorge created and produces the PBS KIDS series *Elinor Wonders Why*. Jorge and Daniel have also co-written two books for adults, *We Have No Idea: A Guide to the Unknown Universe* and *Frequently Asked Questions About the Universe*, and they host the podcast *Jorge and Daniel Explain the Universe* on iHeartRadio. Jorge's debut middle-grade series, *Oliver and the Great Big Universe*, is forthcoming from Abrams. Jorge lives in California.

Daniel Whiteson is a professor of physics at the University of California, Irvine. Together with Jorge Cham, Daniel created and produces the PBS KIDS series *Elinor Wonders Why*. Daniel and Jorge have also co-written two books for adults, *We Have No Idea: A Guide to the Unknown Universe* and *Frequently Asked Questions About the Universe*, and they host the podcast *Jorge and Daniel Explain the Universe* on iHeartRadio. Daniel lives in California.

Illustrations





Kaboom! A Volcano Erupts

Jessica Kulekjian, Zoe Si

The story of a volcano's eruption, as it's never been told before! Here's a step-by-step story of a volcanic eruption --- from the volcano's point of view! Readers meet the volcano as it placidly slumbers. But then, hot magma moves into a chamber beneath it. Steam and gas spew out. The magma and gases rise up, ready to escape. Finally, the volcano shouts, "I'm awake!" as lava, hot rocks, and billows of ash erupt out of its vents with a roar. Hiss, gurgle, sputter, growl! Who knew being a volcano could be so exciting? A perfect pick for budding volcanologists --- or any kid who can't resist a good kaboom!

Summary

The story of a volcano's eruption, as it's never been told before! A perfect pick for budding volcanologists — or any child who can't resist a good *kaboom!*

Here's a step-by-step story of a volcanic eruption — told from the volcano's point of view! Readers meet the volcano as it placidly slumbers, which it's been doing for thousands of years. Then things begin to stir to life deep inside. First come the hisses, as hot magma moves into a chamber beneath the volcano. Then, steam, gas and ash start to gurgle and sputter out, followed by the magma and gases rising up. Finally, the volcano shouts, "I'm awake!" as lava, hot rocks and billows of ash erupt out of its vents with a giant *kaboom!*

In this lively informational picture book, Jessica Kulekjian uses a playful and spirited tone to introduce the thrilling natural phenomenon of an erupting volcano. The unique first-person narrative makes this a perfect read-aloud, giving listeners the opportunity to act out what's happening. The volcano's narration is augmented by the comments of a red bird who appears on every spread to provide the play-by-play and to introduce easily digestible volcanic facts and terms, from *magma chamber* and *tectonic plates* to *ash clouds*. The quirky, funny artwork by Pulitzer Prize-nominated cartoonist and illustrator Zoe Si uses cutaway illustrations for a look inside the volcano. The text has been vetted by volcano experts. Backmatter includes a volcano's anatomy, phases and types, and sources for further learning. An excellent choice for earth science lessons on volcanoes, earth's crust, minerals, rocks and erosion.

Contributor Bio

After a childhood spent outdoors, Jessica Kulekjian studied education and creative writing in college. Now, she teaches second grade and writes stories inspired by her passion for nature, free play and learning. She is the author of several books for children, including *Before We Stood Tall*, an NCTE Notable Book in Poetry. Jessica lives in central California with her family.

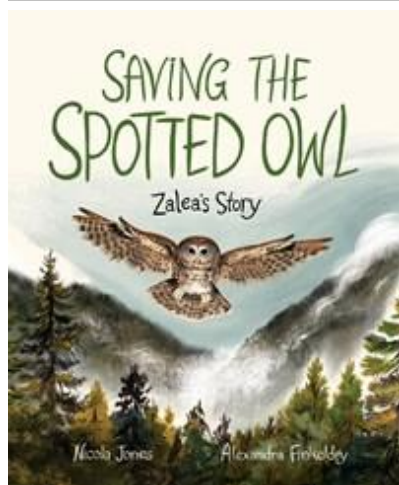
Zoe Si is a Pulitzer Prize-nominated cartoonist and illustrator with a lifelong passion for laughing at her own jokes. After practicing law for a number of years, she now spends her days making children's books, cartooning and writing funny articles for the *New Yorker*, and drawing comics. She lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, with her husband and a large, fluffy dog.

Illustrations



Kids Can Press
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\$19.99/\$21.99 Can.
Hardcover

32 Pages
Carton Qty: 32
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature
JNF037010
Series: -
9 in H | 10 in W



Kids Can Press
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Pub Date: 10/3/2023
\$19.99/\$21.99 Can.
Hardcover

32 Pages
Carton Qty: 38
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
JNF003270
Series: -
11 in H | 9 in W

Saving the Spotted Owl

Zalea's Story

Nicola Jones, Alexandra Finkeldey

An endearing true story of an owl chick's rescue. When Zalea, a three-week-old northern spotted owl, fell from her tree, her parents couldn't carry her back to their nest. That meant Zalea, a member of a threatened species, would be easier for predators to find. But Zalea got lucky. Wildlife biologists found her and brought her to their breeding center, where they could care for her until she could be released back into the wild. Though a long process, the biologists are committed to saving the species --- one owl at a time! This hopeful and engaging story is sure to melt hearts and raise awareness about this inspiring work.

Summary

Readers learn about saving threatened species — and meet real owls! - in this endearing true story of an owl chick's rescue.

One day, Zalea, a three-week-old northern spotted owl, fell from her tree. Her parents were unable to carry her back to their nest. That meant Zalea, a member of a threatened species, would now be easier for predators to find. But Zalea got lucky. Wildlife biologists who saw her on the ground decided to rescue her. They brought her to the Northern Spotted Owl Breeding Centre in Langley, British Columbia. There, she joined a handful of other owls being cared for until they could be released back into the wild. The biologists took great care with Zalea, first placing her with foster parents and later helping her find a mate. They're committed to saving the northern spotted owl — one owl at a time!

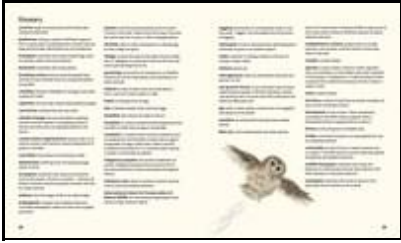
In this informative and hopeful book, Nicola Jones, an award-winning science journalist, uses Zalea's compelling story as a framework to teach and explore the biology and life cycle of owls, as well as raise awareness of environmental concepts such as conservation and habitat protection and the inspiring work of this all-female scientist crew. Information boxes and sidebars with owl facts and loads of other relevant information appear throughout the book alongside the narrative about Zalea's rescue. Alexandra Finkeldey's gorgeous art illustrates the story and the science content, and there are real-life photos of the adorable owls, too! This book has curriculum links to life science lessons on biodiversity, ecosystems, endangered species and animal habitats. A glossary, index, author's note and information on how readers can help round out this usable and highly readable book.

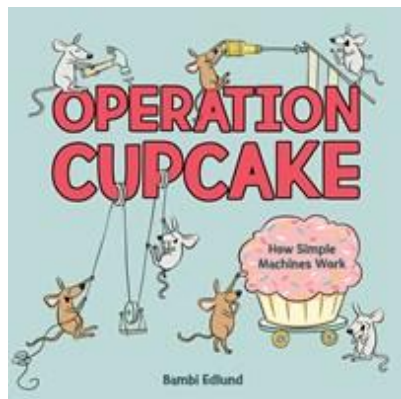
Contributor Bio

Nicola Jones is an award-winning science journalist with a background in chemistry and oceanography who lives in the wilds of Pemberton, British Columbia. She writes about all science from anthropology to quantum physics, with environmental issues at the heart of it all. While she normally writes features for grown-ups, she has also published for children in the magazine Current Science. In 2019, she gave a TED Talk about noise pollution in the ocean.

Alexandra Finkeldey is an illustrator based in Ottawa, Canada. She uses both traditional and digital mediums to capture her favorite subjects, which typically include animals, people, plants and food. She has long been inspired by nature, animation, travel and video games, which has translated into vibrant and often unreal color palettes as they appear in her work. She is the illustrator of When the Storks Came Home.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
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\$21.99/\$23.99 Can.
Hardcover

44 Pages
Carton Qty: 32
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / Technology
JNF051130
Series: -
9 in H | 9 in W

Operation Cupcake

How Simple Machines Work

Bambi Edlund

Two clever (and hilarious!) mice use physics to retrieve a tasty treat. Ginger and Mac are pros at snatching up delicious tidbits and bringing them back to their mousehole to eat. Today, though, their mission is complicated. Their target is a vanilla cupcake with buttercream frosting. Only, it's (a) too big for them to carry, (b) within leaping distance of the resident cat and dog and (c) under a heavy glass cake dome. Luckily, these mice love a challenge. Ginger is sure they can use simple machines to get the job done. But is she right? Operation Cupcake is both a laugh-out-loud adventure and a "paws-on" introduction to simple machines. What could be better for learning science?

Summary

In this hilarious story about a couple of clever mice on a quest for a tasty treat, readers get a "paws-on" introduction to six simple machines.

Ginger and Mac are pros at snatching up delicious tidbits and bringing them back to their cozy mousehole to eat. Today, though, their mission is complicated. Their target is an especially aromatic vanilla cupcake with pink buttercream frosting. Only, it's (a) too big for them to carry, (b) on a high counter within leaping distance of both the resident cat and dog and (c) under a heavy glass cake dome. Luckily, these mice love nothing more than solving a challenging problem (except maybe eating buttercream frosting!). Ginger is sure they can use simple machines to get the job done. But is she right?

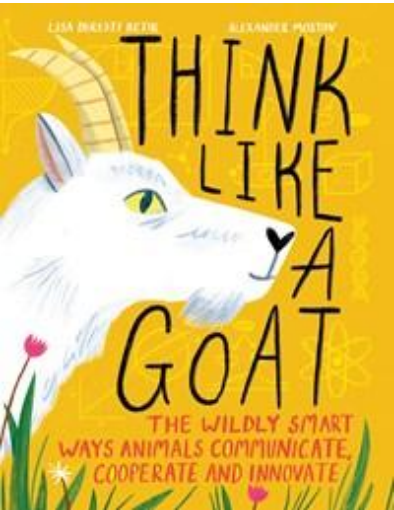
Bambi Edlund has created a fun way to teach children about the basic concepts of mechanical physics. Ginger and Mac's adventure story is told in panels with dialogue boxes, while the science behind how simple machines work is explained throughout the story in fully illustrated sections that never interrupt the flow of the narrative. The result is a highly entertaining book that gives readers a clear and easy-to-understand overview of the six simple machines - inclined plane, lever, pulley, wheel and axle, screw, and wedge - and how they make life easier. It's sure to inspire readers to search for examples of simple machines that exist all around them. With loads of hands-on activities that can be done at home or in the classroom, this is an excellent choice for teaching elementary physics and engineering.

Contributor Bio

Bambi Edlund is a self-taught artist, designer, needle-felted sculptor and stop motion animator, and has been the Art Director for Edible Vancouver since 2008. She illustrated the book What a Waste: Where Does Garbage Go?. Bambi lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, with a large Bernese mountain dog named Beatrix and a big fluffy cat named Midge.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
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Hardcover

48 Pages
Carton Qty: 36
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
JNF003000
Series: -
11 in H | 8.5 in W

Think Like a Goat

The Wildly Smart Ways Animals Communicate, Cooperate and Innovate

Lisa Deresti Betik, Alexander Mostov

Think humans are the only intelligent creatures? Think again. Sure, humans are smart. But scientists are discovering that we can learn a lot from some super-smart animals. For example: some birds can store seeds in thousands of different places - and remember them all! Octopuses can camouflage themselves as other animals or objects to avoid predators. Ants can work together on tasks by following instinctive algorithms. This fascinating book, covering four intelligence categories, celebrates all kinds of critters - each with their own kind of smarts! Who can look at animals the same way again? Kids will love this mind-expanding view of creatures great and small!

Summary

Think humans are the only intelligent creatures? Think again. The unique smarts of all kinds of creatures are on display in this intriguing exploration of animal intelligence!

Sure, humans are smart. But scientists are discovering that many other animals have smarts that might surprise us. For example: Some birds can store seeds in thousands of different places and then remember where they are months later. Octopuses can camouflage themselves as rocks, plants or other animals to avoid predators. And fireflies can communicate with one another by flashing light signals from their abdomens. Covering four broad categories of intelligence - communication, social learning and cooperation, problem-solving and memory, and emotional intelligence - this fascinating book explains and celebrates animal intelligence in all its many varieties!

Lisa Deresti Betik’s innovative and highly readable resource about the intelligence of all kinds of critters is sure to delight animal lovers of every stripe. With lively, fun text presented in bite-size chunks, and playful illustrations by Alexander Mostov, including infographics and charts, the book is accessible and easy to read. Other topics covered include evolution and natural selection, ethology and distinctions between instinct and learning. The message is one of respecting other animals and recognizing we can learn a lot from how they solve problems. The high-interest topic has many life science curriculum links, including characteristics of living things, diversity of living things, and growth and changes in animals. The content is supported by a glossary, an index and suggested sources for further reading.

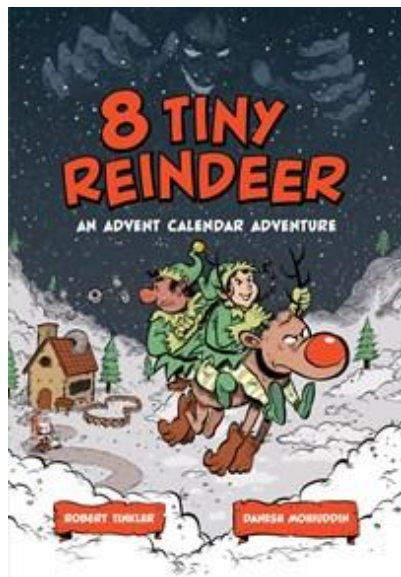
Contributor Bio

Lisa Deresti Betik used to spin wild tales about invisible, blanket-eating alligators in her room, and now she writes fun, fascinating nonfiction books for children, including *In the Dark: The Science of What Happens at Night*. Born in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Lisa grew up surrounded by majestic lakes and forests that encouraged her curiosity. She now lives in Waterloo, Ontario, with her family, where she keeps a Little Free Library on their front lawn.

Alexander Mostov is an illustrator whose work has been featured by Google, Amazon, the New York Times and in several children's books. He lives with his partner and their mischievous little dog in Seattle, where he can be found snowshoeing and motorcycling around when he's not making art.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525304644
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\$18.99/\$19.99 Can.
Hardcover

168 Pages
Carton Qty: 24
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays & Celebrations
JUV017010
Series: -
9 in H | 6.5 in W

8 Tiny Reindeer

An Advent Calendar Adventure

Robert Tinkler, Danesh Mohiuddin

In this modern tale, two elves help Santa save Christmas from an evil tech baron! In the not-too-distant future, Santa's operation is automated with technology that makes the toys and delivers them. Santa has let go all but two of his elves and released his 8 tiny reindeer into the wild. Then, just days before Christmas, the tycoon who supplied the technology shuts down all Santa's machines. He wants to take over Christmas! Santa's only hope of saving the holiday are his 8 tiny reindeer --- the secret to the magic of Christmas. But will the elves find them in time? Technology rules ... until it doesn't! Kids will root for Christmas the old-fashioned way!

Summary

In this modern holiday tale, based on the podcast of the same name, two resourceful elves help Santa try to save Christmas from an evil tech baron!

In the not-too-distant future, Santa's entire operation has been automated. Machines, not elves, make all the toys. And drones transport the presents around the world on Christmas Eve, not Santa's reindeer. Since Santa no longer needs much help, he's let go all but two of his elves, Elvis and Delfina, and released his 8 tiny reindeer into the wild. Only, just days before Christmas, Santa learns that the wealthy tycoon who supplied him with all his technology, Larchmont Quickbuck, is plotting to take over Christmas and send Santa packing! Santa knows his only hope of saving the holiday from Quickbuck is to bring back the true source of Christmas magic — his 8 tiny reindeer. But will Elvis and Delfina find them in time?

This highly entertaining graphic novel by Robert Tinkler — a writer, podcast producer, voice actor and Daytime Emmy nominee — is based on his podcast of the same name, which is listened to around the world. The holiday adventure story with a modern twist is structured like an advent calendar, with one chapter for each day of December leading up to Christmas Day (though many readers won't want to wait!). Each spread is chock-full of Danesh Mohiuddin's high-energy illustrations. Loaded with contemporary takes on familiar characters, such as a tech-challenged Santa and selfie-obsessed elf, this action-packed, hilarious and heartfelt book is destined to be a Christmas classic!

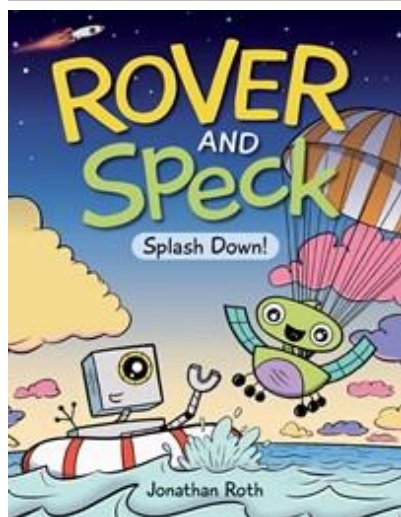
Contributor Bio

Robert Tinkler is a writer, podcast producer and voice actor. He has worked on animated and live-action series for Disney, Netflix, PBS, Cartoon Network and Corus Entertainment. For his performance in the hit PBS series *Cyberchase*, he received a Daytime Emmy Award nomination. Robert lives with his family in Toronto, Ontario.

Danesh Mohiuddin is a freelance illustrator whose clients include Scholastic, OwlKids Books, TD Bank and Time Out magazine. He is a graduate from the applied arts program at Sheridan College, where he specialized in technical and scientific illustration. Born in India and raised in Dubai, Danesh now makes his home in Toronto, Ontario, with his wife and kids.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525305672
Pub Date: 10/3/2023
\$16.99/\$18.99 Can.
Hardcover

104 Pages
Carton Qty: 40
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
JUV008000
Series: Rover and Speck
8.5 in H | 6.5 in W

Rover and Speck: Splash Down!

Jonathan Roth

Everyone's favorite space rovers are back, this time facing a watery rescue operation! Space explorers Rover and Speck are on a dangerous new mission: visiting Unexplored Planet K2-18b. It doesn't take them long to encounter a frightening inhabitant - a blubber beast - or to find themselves inside its mouth! Luckily, they manage to escape unharmed. But when they learn that a local creature has been swallowed by the Beast, they know they alone can rescue him. They'll have to go back in! Can they succeed? Or will they - gulp - get swallowed, too? The fun is out of this world (even though they're inside the belly of the Beast!) in this hilarious second book in the Rover and Speck series!

Summary

Everyone's favorite space rovers take on a dangerous rescue operation - inside the belly of the Beast! - in this hilarious title in the early graphic novel series.

Interplanetary space explorers Rover and Speck have set out on a dangerous mission deep into the mysterious unknown: a visit to Unexplored Planet K2-18b. Though all seems calm to Rover when they first splash down on the watery surface, they soon find themselves in the mouth of a gigantic blubber beast! With a little ingenuity (by Rover) and some furious paddling (by Speck) they manage to escape unharmed. But when the pair meet two local spikey-spiques whose brother was swallowed by the Beast, Rover knows the brother's only hope is for the two brave explorers to go back inside the Beast to find him. Do Rover and Speck have what it takes to rescue the spikey-spike? Or will they - gulp - get swallowed, too?

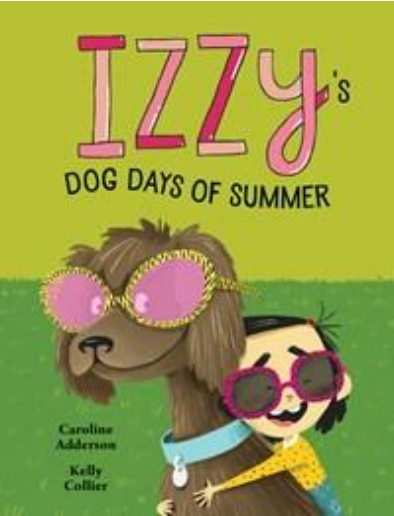
Jonathan Roth's series about two space rovers with wildly different personalities hits all the right notes for early graphic novel fans, with loads of action and humor and the funniest space rover buddy team (okay, maybe the only one) ever written. The drama is interspersed with just enough silliness to keep readers enthralled. Brightly colored traditional comic art adds to the book's appeal. As a bonus, illustrated science fact boxes containing fun and accessible background information about marine biology, underwater creatures and other relevant science topics (and jokes!) appear throughout the story. The book ends with an engaging interactive art lesson from Rover and Speck on how to draw waves.

Contributor Bio

Author-illustrator Jonathan Roth has been fascinated with robotic space missions since the Viking lander sent back the first images from the surface of Mars. Jonathan, who teaches elementary art, lives in Rockville, Maryland, with his wife and two kitties in a house on a rocky planet orbiting a fiery star in a barred spiral galaxy. He is also the author of the Beep and Bob series.

Illustrations





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Hardcover

168 Pages
Carton Qty: 40
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
JUV045000
Series: Izzy
7.3 in H | 5.5 in W

Izzy's Dog Days of Summer

Caroline Adderson, Kelly Collier
The latest heartwarming and hilarious title from Caroline Adderson and Kelly Collier's delightful Izzy series! Isabel and Zoë are thrilled to be starting Fun in the Sun Camp! It's too bad Isabel's dog, Rollo, isn't allowed, but the songs, wiener roasts and swimming will make up for that, right? Wrong! The counselors won't let them do anything fun! So, Isabel and Zoë start their own Bigger Amount of Fun in the Sun Camp in the backyard, with Rollo, instead. But is ketchup safe for dogs? And what will they do about Mr. Entwistle, Isabel's neighbor who lives on the grumpy side of the fence? Summer camp shenanigans? Perfect! Kids will wish they could sign up for the Bigger Amount of Fun in the Sun Camp.

Summary

In this heartwarming and hilarious title from award-winning author Caroline Adderson's delightful Izzy series, Isabel and Zoë are ready to have a big amount of fun at summer camp. But is summer camp ready for Izzy?

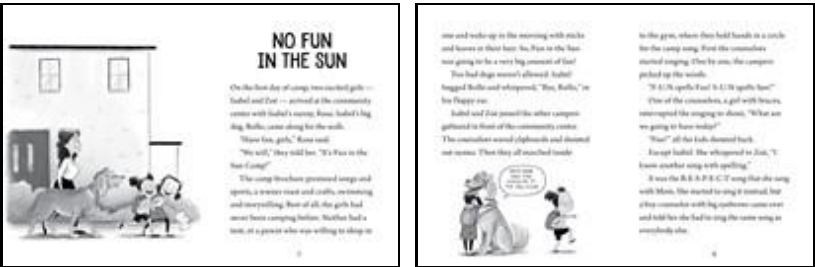
Isabel and Zoë are so excited to be starting Fun in the Sun Camp! It's too bad Isabel's dog, Rollo, isn't allowed, but the songs and sports, wiener roasts and crafts, swimming and storytelling will surely make up for that, right? Wrong! It turns out, the camp counselors do a big amount of saying *no*: NO singing your own song, NO running like a penguin, NO trading lunches (even when your sandwich bread is mushy from pickle juice!). Isabel wants to have her own Bigger Amount of Fun in the Sun Camp in the backyard, *with* Rollo, instead. But will Isabel's mom let her? And what will they do about Mr. Entwistle, their neighbor who lives on the grumpy side of the fence?

Award-winning author Caroline Adderson is a master at telling stories that keep early-chapter-book readers engaged, amused and laughing out loud. This series about the lovable Izzy delivers kid-perfect subjects, lovable characters, loads of humor - and a dog! This title works for both independent reading and reading aloud, with just enough fun-filled illustrations by Kelly Collier - one on nearly every spread - to keep the pages accessible. The side story about the older Mr. Entwistle touches on the theme of death in an accepting and respectful way and supports social-emotional learning and character education lessons on empathy.

Contributor Bio

Caroline Adderson is the acclaimed, award-winning author of the Jasper John Dooley series, as well as many other books for readers of all ages. She lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, with her husband and her disobedient Jack Russell terrier, Arlo. Kelly Collier is the author-illustrator of A Horse Named Steve and Team Steve. She has an identical twin sister who is her best friend (most of the time) and her favorite person (all of the time). Kelly lives in Toronto, Ontario, with her husband and their daughter.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
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Hardcover

160 Pages
Carton Qty: 36
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Historical
JUV016030
Series: -
7.9 in H | 5.3 in W

The Cricket War

Tho Pham, Sandra McTavish

The gripping story of a boy's escape by boat from Communist Vietnam in 1980. Eleven-year-old Thọ Phạm lives with his family in South Vietnam. He spends his afternoons playing soccer and cricket fighting, but life is slowly changing under the Communists. His parents are worried, and Thọ knows the Communist army will soon knock on their door to make his brother, and then him, join them. Still, it shocks him when his father says he's arranged for Thọ to leave, immediately. Thọ tries to be brave as he sets out on a harrowing journey toward the unknown. A survival story drawn from real-life experiences enrich this riveting refugee story.

Summary

A gripping story of a boy's escape from Communist Vietnam by boat, based on the author's own experience.

It's 1980, and 11-year-old Thọ Phạm lives with his family in South Vietnam. He spends his afternoons playing soccer and cricket fighting with his friends, but life is slowly changing under the Communists. His parents are worried, and Thọ knows the Communist army will soon knock on their door to make his brother, and then him, join them. Still, it shocks him when his father says that arrangements have been made for him to leave Vietnam by boat, immediately. Thọ tries to be brave as he sets out on a harrowing journey toward the unknown.

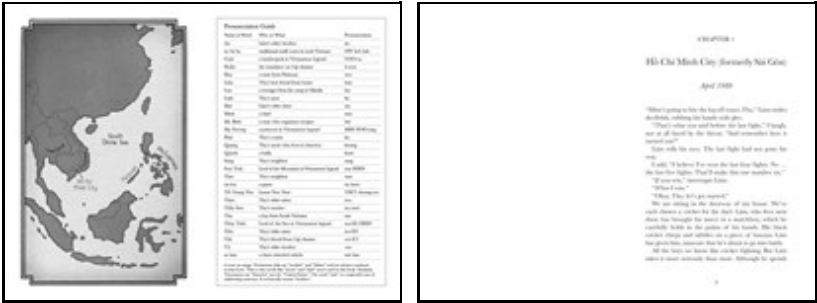
Co-authors Thọ Phạm and Sandra McTavish, childhood friends, have loosely based this historical fiction novel on Thọ's real-life experience as one of the Vietnamese Boat People, and includes many factual details from his journey on the South China Sea and in a Philippine refugee camp. Depictions of pirate attacks, hunger, and loneliness make for a riveting survival story, sure to elicit empathy for refugees. Eventually adopted by a Canadian elementary school teacher, Thọ's story is ultimately one of hope, courage, and resilience. It's a valuable resource for social studies lessons on Asian culture and history and on immigration.

Contributor Bio

Tho Pham left Vietnam alone at the age of 11, joining tens of thousands of refugees on boats and ships. After a two-month-long journey at sea and landing at a refugee camp in Palawan, Philippines, he was eventually adopted by a Canadian elementary school teacher. Tho lives in Ottawa with his family.

Sandra McTavish is a former high school English teacher and now works in educational publishing. She and her partner, Doug, divide their time between Toronto and his family farm in Ontario, where they have a few "pet" cows and barn cats.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525312540
Pub Date: 9/5/2023
\$12.99/\$16.99 Can.
Paperback

304 Pages
Carton Qty: 1
Ages 14 to 18
Young Adult Fiction / Sports & Recreation
YAF059080
Series: -

8.5 in H | 5.7 in W

Michigan vs. the Boys

Carrie S. Allen

Hockey meets the #MeToo movement in this powerful debut novel. Michigan Manning lives for hockey, and this is her year to shine. That is, until she gets some crushing news: budget cuts will keep the girls' hockey team off the ice this year. If she wants colleges to notice her, Michigan has to find a way to play. Luckily, there's still one team left in town ... The boys' team isn't exactly welcoming, but Michigan's prepared to prove herself. She plays some of the best hockey of her life, in fact, all while putting up with changing in the broom closet, constant trash talk and "harmless" pranks that always seem to target her. But once hazing crosses the line into assault, Michigan must weigh the consequences of speaking up --- even if it means putting her future on the line.

Summary

When a determined girl is confronted with the culture of toxic masculinity, it's time to even the score.

Michigan Manning lives for hockey, and this is her year to shine. That is, until she gets some crushing news: budget cuts will keep the girls' hockey team off the ice this year.

If she wants colleges to notice her, Michigan has to find a way to play. Luckily, there's still one team left in town ...

The boys' team isn't exactly welcoming, but Michigan's prepared to prove herself. She plays some of the best hockey of her life, in fact, all while putting up with changing in the broom closet, constant trash talk and "harmless" pranks that always seem to target her.

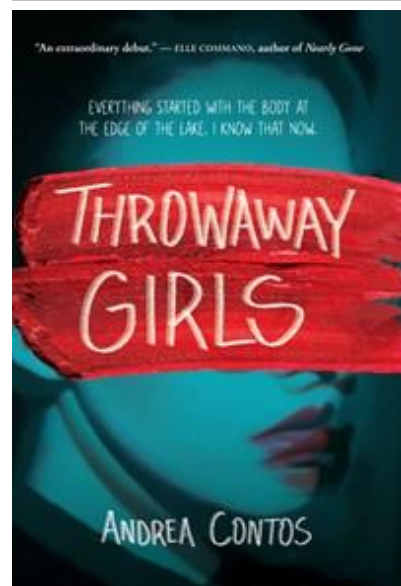
But once hazing crosses the line into assault, Michigan must weigh the consequences of speaking up — even if it means putting her future on the line.

Contributor Bio

Carrie S. Allen grew up in the Colorado mountains, at 10,000 feet elevation. She worked as a certified athletic trainer, first in a high school, and then in collegiate sports medicine. She lives in Colorado Springs with her husband, kids and dogs. When she's not acting as an unpaid chauffeur, she writes about athletes. Not female athletes, but athletes who happen to be female.

Illustrations





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Throwaway Girls

Andrea Contos

A timely edge-of-your-seat thriller from a debut writer to watch. Caroline is only three months from her great escape --- leaving behind her rigid prep school and the parents who think they can convert her to being straight --- when her best friend, Madison, goes missing. There's no question that Caroline will get involved in the investigation. After all, she has her own reasons for not trusting the police, and she owes Madison big time. But Caroline uncovers a wider mystery as she follows the clues, with other missing girls and no one on the case. Why isn't anyone looking for these girls? And what's the connection between them and Madison? Could it be . . . Caroline herself?

Summary

A timely edge-of-your-seat thriller from a debut writer to watch.

Caroline Lawson is three months away from freedom, otherwise known as graduation day. That's when she'll finally escape her rigid prep school and the parents who thought they could convert her to being straight.

Until then, Caroline is keeping her head down, pretending to be the perfect student even though she is crushed by her family and heartbroken over the girlfriend who left for California.

But when her best friend Madison disappears, Caroline feels compelled to get involved in the investigation. She has her own reasons not to trust the police, and she owes Madison — big time.

Suddenly Caroline realizes how little she knew of what her friend was up to. Caroline has some uncomfortable secrets about the hours before Madison disappeared, but they're nothing compared to the secrets Madison has been hiding. And why does Mr. McCormack, their teacher, seem to know so much about them?

It's only when Caroline discovers *other* missing girls that she begins to close in on the truth. Unlike Madison, the other girls are from the wrong side of the tracks. Unlike Madison's, their disappearances haven't received much attention. Caroline is determined to find out what happened to them and why no one seems to notice. But as every new discovery leads Caroline closer to the connection between these girls and Madison, she faces an unsettling truth.

There's only one common denominator between the disappearances: Caroline herself.

Andrea Contos's debut is an edge-of-your-seat thriller. The suspense never lets up, even as the story raises important questions about class differences and how they are reflected in law enforcement. And the multilayered plot unfolds from two alternating points of view, making for dramatic changes in tone and pace throughout.

With its unforeseeable twists involving an intriguing and intertwined cast of characters, this dark and moody story will keep readers guessing till the very end.

Contributor Bio

Andrea Contos is an award-winning writer of young adult mysteries and thrillers. She's the author of *Tell Me No Lies*, *Out of the Fire* and *Throwaway Girls*. Andrea is an ITW award winner for Best Young Adult Novel, and her debut was named a Kirkus Best Book of 2020. You can find her on Twitter at @Andrea_Contos, Instagram at @andreacontos, and her website at www.andreacontos.com

Illustrations