

Celebrating **65 years**
Lerner™



Frankfurt

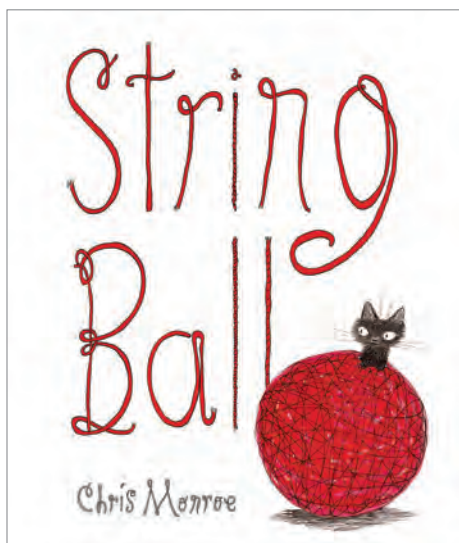
2024
RIGHTS GUIDE





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String Ball

Chris Monroe

When a curious kitten stumbles upon its young owner's string ball craft project, slips inside, and begins to roll, a series of rollicking adventures unfolds! This nearly wordless picture book employs a limited palette and offers a fresh new approach from beloved author-illustrator Chris Monroe.

- Has the look and feel of a modern classic
- Hilarious physical comedy
- Brings together Chris Monroe's background as a newspaper cartoonist and a children's book creator for a fresh new approach

Chris Monroe is an award-winning author, illustrator and cartoonist. Her picture books include the **Monkey with a Tool Belt** series, which inspired the Netflix series *Chico Bon Bon: Monkey with a Tool Belt*. She lives in Duluth, MN.

Carolrhoda Books®

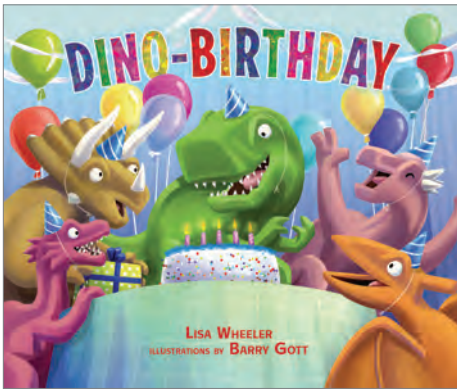
Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 4-8

May 6, 2025

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Dino-Birthday

Lisa Wheeler, illus. Barry Gott

Happy birthday, dear dinos! Check out four birthdays in four seasons and see all the fun ways dinos celebrate. With playful party themes, presents, cake, and lots of games for everyone!

- A fun way to celebrate birthdays at any time of year
- Themes include sports, winter fun (sledding, skiing), a roller rink, and a pool party
- Easy-to-read verse incorporates lots of dino names and makes for a great readaloud

Lisa Wheeler is the award-winning author of the **Dino-Sports** and **Dino-Holidays** books. When she isn't running around the country visiting schools, standing at podiums, and eating airport snacks, she resides in Michigan.

Barry Gott lives in Ohio and has illustrated many children's books, including all of the **Dino-Sports** and **Dino-Holidays** books.

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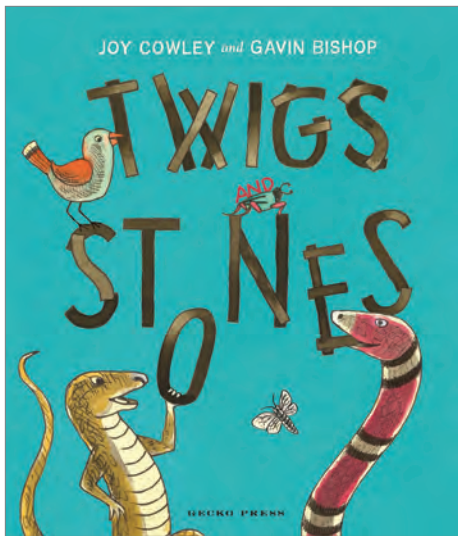
Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 10% x 8% • Ages: 5-9

March 4, 2025

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Twigs and Stones

Joy Cowley, illus. Gavin Bishop

Snake and Lizard want to write their names on their burrow's front door. But who's name will go first? This warm and wise picture book captures the essence of friendship and nudges us to notice the power of our words.

- A companion picture book to the much-loved, award-winning fiction series **Snake and Lizard**
- Themes of name calling and crossing the line between joking and being mean resonate for families and schools
- Written by Joy Cowley, New Zealand's leading children's writer, and illustrated by the world-renowned artist Gavin Bishop

Joy Cowley lives in New Zealand, and her books are loved by children all around the world. She is a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, is a leading Māori illustrator living in Christchurch, New Zealand. He has published more than seventy books internationally, which have been translated into twelve languages. His awards include the Sir Kingi Ihaka award for lifetime contribution to Māori art and culture.

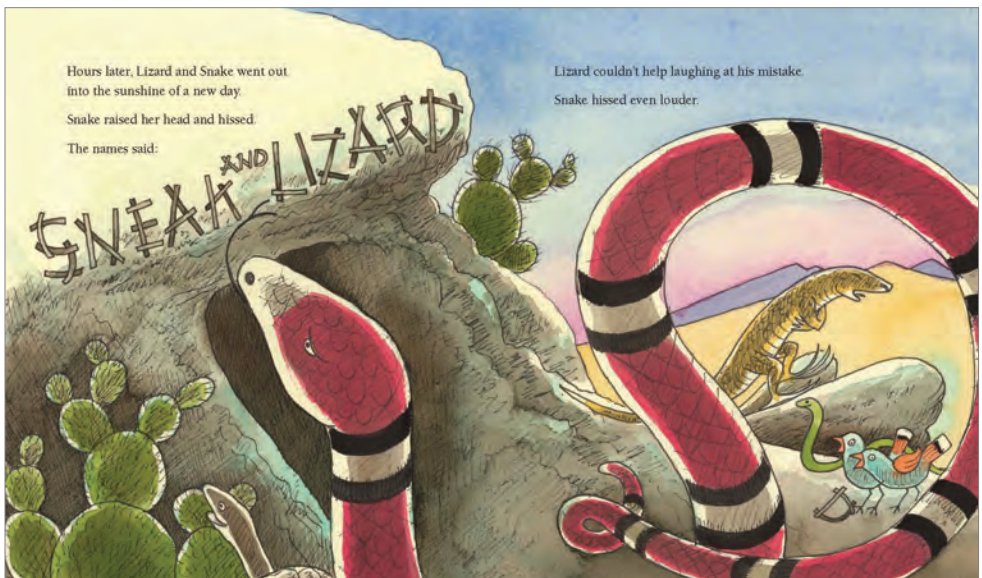
Gecko Press™

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 7½ x 9 • Ages: 6-9

April 1, 2025

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Saif's Special Patches

Humera Malik, illus. Ravan Sader

Saif is "just shy," or at least that's what everyone tells him. When his mom comforts him with a patchwork quilt made of his special memories, he remembers he's brave, smart, persistent, and helpful, too.

- Social and emotional learning component— coping with shyness
- Shows mother-son and sibling bonding
- Features a Muslim family and elements of the Ramadan holiday

Humera Malik is a teacher-turned-writer of Muslim faith and Pakistani roots. She enjoys bringing to life relatable characters that celebrate her South Asian heritage and culture. She currently resides in Arlington, Virginia with her husband and three children.

Ravan Sader is an artist and book illustrator based in Amman, Jordan, who loves creating fun, adventurous characters. Ravan designs imaginary worlds, narrates visual stories, and enjoys painting.

Soaring Kite Books

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 11 x 9 • Ages: 4-9

March 4, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: SOARING KITE BOOKS C/O LERNER





The Fearless Storyteller

Cassie Silva, illus. Ana Zurita

When a young girl's father is scared of the unicorns in her bedtime book, she hides it to protect him. When he's scared of giraffes next, she realizes he's scared of reading the big words.

- Highlights ESL families, single parents, and immigrant parents
- Raises literacy awareness
- Shows father-daughter bonding

Cassie Silva is an author of multiple children's books and a social worker of Portuguese heritage living in Vancouver, Canada. Cassie loves volunteering, books, cats, and ice cream.

Ana Zurita lives in Spain. She was born by the sea in Valencia, where she completed her studies in Fine Arts. She is a big fan of the beach in winter, the color yellow, the smell of old books, and heavy blankets. She has illustrated many picture books.

Soaring Kite Books

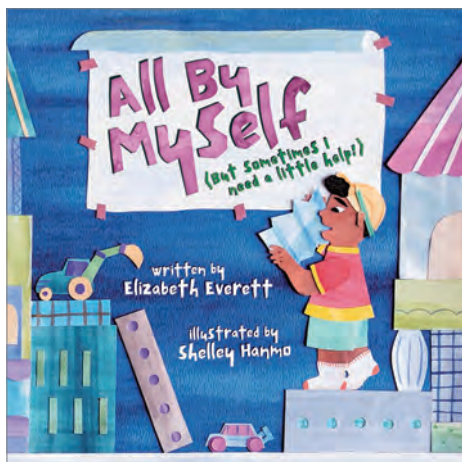
Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9 x 9 • Ages: 4-9

April 1, 2025

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All by Myself (But Sometimes I Need a Little Help!)

Elizabeth Everett, illus. Shelley Hanmo

I can do many things all by myself, but sometimes I need a little help. A child can stack blocks but needs help building castles. They can connect two pieces but not the whole puzzle. And that's okay!

- Celebrates independence and promotes self-confidence and self-esteem
- Shows father-son and mother-son bonding
- Beautiful cut paper artwork throughout

Elizabeth Everett spent 16 years as a classroom teacher before venturing into writing. She currently lives in Colorado with her family where they love spending time outdoors.

Shelley Hanmo is a self-taught freelance illustrator and paper artist based in Indianapolis, Indiana. She specializes in creating children's book cut paper illustrations and editorial designs.

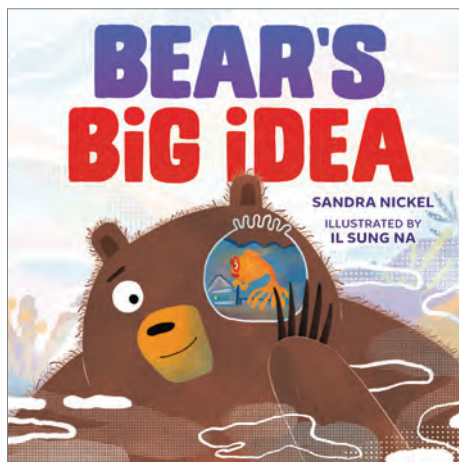
Soaring Kite Books

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 10 x 10 • Ages: 3-8

April 1, 2025

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Bear's Big Idea

Sandra Nickel, illus. Il Sung Na

Fish always has a great idea for what to do! When it's Bear's turn to think of something, she doesn't know where to start. A sweet story of friendship, ingenuity, and a surprisingly epic adventure!

- A charming follow-up to *Big Bear and Little Fish*
- Accessible prose is a great fit for beginning readers
- Incorporates SEL themes, especially self-management, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills

Sandra Nickel is an award-winning author of picture books. She holds an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts and has presented workshops on writing for children throughout Europe and the United States. She is based in Switzerland.

Il Sung Na was born in Seoul, South Korea. He holds an MFA in Illustration Practice at Maryland Institute College of Art and has illustrated more than a dozen picture books. Based in Kansas City, Il Sung teaches at Kansas City Art Institute.

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¾ x 9¾ • Ages: 4-8

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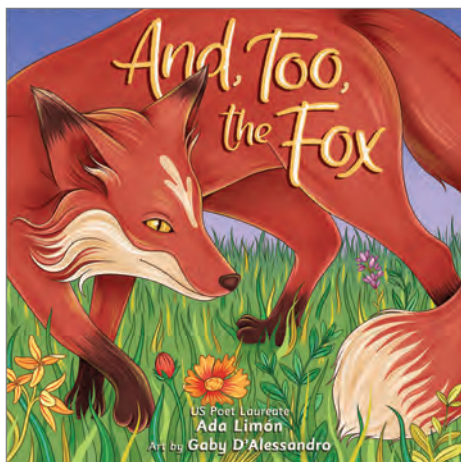
HANNIGAN GETZLER LITERARY

DRAMATIC RIGHTS, ART: PAINTED WORDS

PORTUGUESE (BRAZIL) LANGUAGE RIGHTS SOLD TO EDIOURO

"A winning tale of friendship and creativity unleashed."

— *Kirkus Reviews*



And, Too, the Fox

Ada Limón, *illus.* Gaby D'Alessandro

*Comes with its streak of red
flashing across the lawn,
squirrel bound and bouncing...*

US Poet Laureate Ada Limón has a keen eye for the natural world. This poem pulses with the joyful energy of a fox bounding through backyards, piecing together a living in his own way. Paired with lush illustrations by Gaby D'Alessandro, this picture book brings Limón's work to a new generation.

- Ada Limón is the US Poet Laureate until April 2025 and was named a 2023 MacArthur Fellow
- *And, Too, the Fox* is a picture book adaptation of Limón's poem which originally appeared in her poetry collection *The Hurting Kind* (Milkweed Editions)

Ada Limón is the author of six books of poetry, including *The Carrying*, which won the *National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry*. She is the 24th Poet Laureate of the United States and the recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship. She lives in both Kentucky and California.

Gaby D'Alessandro is a Dominican illustrator based in NYC. Gaby's work has been recognized by Communication Arts, The Society of Illustrators, 3x3, American Illustration, and Latin American Ilustración. Her illustrated books include *And, Too, the Fox*; *The Cot in the Living Room*; and *Stolen Science*.

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 24 • Trim: 9¾ x 9¾ • Ages: 5-9

January 7, 2025

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO, ENHANCED EBOOK
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DRAMATIC RIGHTS, TEXT: MILKWEED EDITIONS
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We Are the Scrapy Ones

Rebekah Taussig, illus. Kirbi Fagan

This poetic book is an anthem of belonging, celebrating the wide range of disabled children and affirming their worth, just as they are. Filled with luminous illustrations of children living, learning, and playing.

- Is a disability-centered picture book in the vein of *I Am Enough* by Grace Byers and *I Am Every Good Thing* by Derrick Barnes
- Rebekah is the author of the adult memoir *Sitting Pretty: The View from My Ordinary Resilient Disabled Body*
- #OwnVoices author and illustrator, both of whom have lived with disabilities since childhood

Rebekah Taussig has a PhD in Creative Nonfiction and Disability Studies from the University of Kansas and she writes personal stories about disability. She lives in Kansas City with her husband and young son.

Kirbi Fagan is an illustrator based in Michigan. Kirbi is recognized for her cover art, her picture book *The Summer of the Tree Army* by Gloria Whelan, as well as her numerous covers for comic books.

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$19.99

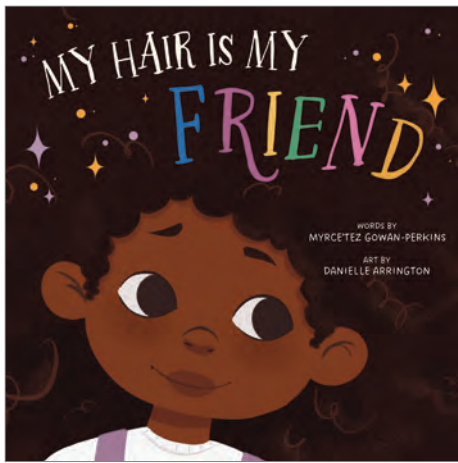
Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 9¼ • Ages: 5-9

April 1, 2025

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My Hair Is My Friend

Myrcetez Gowan-Perkins, illus. Danielle Arrington

After Cali realizes that her natural hair doesn't listen to a thing she says, she decides to take her older sister's approach to treat her hair like a friend with kindness, love, and care.

- Promotes hair expression, self-confidence, and individuality
- #OwnVoices author and illustrator
- Heartwarming sister story

Myrcetez Gowan-Perkins was born and raised in Waco, Texas. She finds joy in expression through creative writing, including themes of love, family, and healing while showcasing her African heritage.

Danielle Arrington is an illustrator and designer who enjoys creating diverse characters, something she didn't see enough of growing up. Her art features soft colors, textures, and positive vibes.

Soaring Kite Books

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 10 x 10 • Ages: 5-9

October 1, 2024

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Once Upon a Diwali

Anita Mishra, illus. Diah Chakraborty

Riya loves Diwali for the tasty treats but not the darkness and loud fireworks. Can Riya be brave and find a way to celebrate Diwali with her family without being scared?

- Spotlights food from the country and culture being celebrated
- #OwnVoices author and illustrator
- Incorporates South Asian folklore

Anita Mishra was born in India, experiencing the diverse culture and traditions celebrated. As a kindergarten teacher, Anita is passionate about writing stories to entertain children and spark their imagination.

Diah Chakraborty calls charming Assam, India, home. Diah paints vivid scenes bursting with colors and takes inspiration from childhood innocence, whimsical fantasies, and the comforting nostalgia that warms the soul.

Soaring Kite Books

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 8 x 10 • Ages: 5-9

August 6, 2024

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Baking Up Love

Alan Page; Kamie Page, illus. David Geister

Grandpa helps Esther bake cupcakes for the school's Literacy Feast. They miss baking with Grandma, but they feel close to her when they add her special ingredient—love.

- Page Education Foundation creates picture books focused on diversity and inclusion
- An endearing intergenerational story
- Includes a recipe for Mississippi Mud (chocolate cupcakes) in the backmatter

Alan Page, retired Associate of the Minnesota Supreme Court and NFL Hall of Famer, is an award-winning children's book author. He and his wife, Diane, founded the Page Education Foundation.

Kamie Page is a teacher and lifelong teacher. She and her father, Alan Page, are award-winning authors.

David Geister is a storyteller with a paintbrush who has created artwork for historic sites, publications, and private collectors. He is the illustrator of more than twenty picture books.

Page Education Foundation

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9 x 11 • Ages: 5-9

January 1, 2025

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Slippery, Spicy, Tingly

A Kimchi Mystery

Yangsook Choi

Keo loves kimchi! And he loves his halmoni! When his grandmother visits and digs a big hole in the backyard, Keo isn't sure what's happening. A story with heart, humor, and lots of cabbage!

- Inspired by Yangsook Choi's childhood memories of her halmoni making kimchi the traditional way in Korea
- An #ownvoices, intergenerational story
- Kimjang, the practice of making winter kimchi, has been named an Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO

Yangsook Choi grew up in Korea and moved to New York to study art. She has written and illustrated many books, earning several awards including a *NYT Outstanding Book of the Year*, an *ALA Notable Book*, and an *International Reading Association's Children's Book Award*. She currently resides in Seoul.

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$18.99

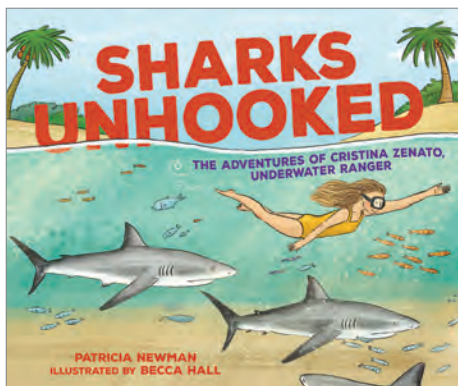
Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 5-9

October 1, 2024

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DRAMATIC RIGHTS: ERIN MURPHY LITERARY AGENCY

"A slippery, spicy tale that tingles with wit and whimsy."

— *Kirkus Reviews*



Sharks Unhooked

The Adventures of Cristina Zenato, Underwater Ranger

Patricia Newman, illus. Becca Hall

From the time Cristina Zenato was young, she loved the ocean and she loved sharks. She grew up to become an advocate for these incredible creatures, diving with them and removing fishing hooks from their bodies.

- Has a strong environmental message about protecting sharks, which play a critical role in ocean food webs
- Includes a note from Cristina herself
- Highlights a strong woman who forged her own path, following what she loves
- Will appeal to fans of books like *The Shark Lady* by Jess Keating

Patricia Newman gravitates toward stories about animals and conservation science and enjoys sharing her excitement with readers. Her books include Sibert Honor title *Sea Otter Heroes*, *Eavesdropping on Elephants*, and Orbis Pictus Recommended Book *Planet Ocean: Why We All Need a Healthy Ocean*. She lives in California.

Becca Hall graduated from Manchester School of Art in 2014, where she received a First Class Honours Degree, and the Alumni award for illustration. Afterwards she began working as a freelance illustrator and artist. She now lives in Cornwall with her two dogs.

Millbrook Press™

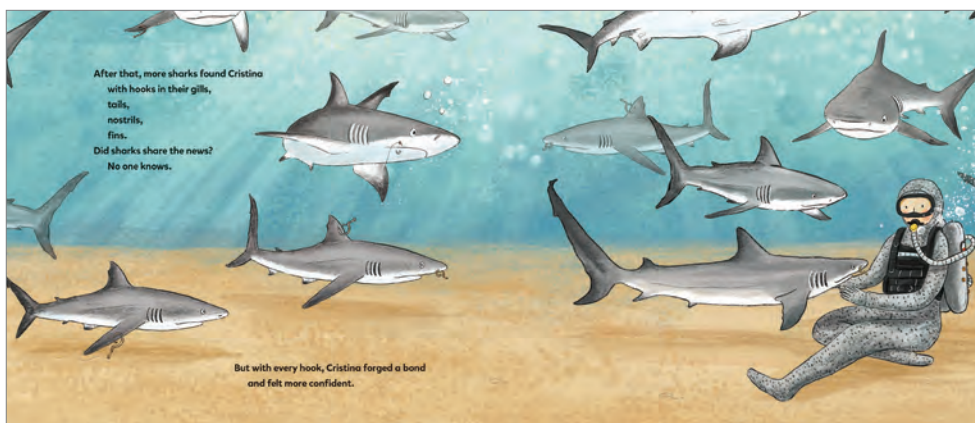
Price: HC: \$19.99

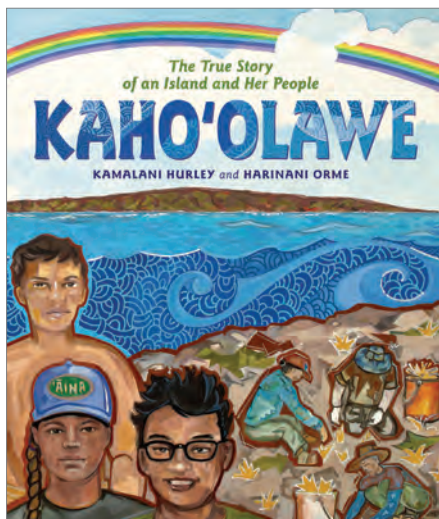
Pages: 32 • Trim: 10½ x 8¾ • Ages: 5-10

April 1, 2025

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Kaho'olawe

The True Story of an Island and Her People

Kamalani Hurley, illus. Harinani Orme

Discover the story of the smallest Hawaiian island, a place sacred to Native Hawaiians, from its formation long ago to its present-day restoration as a protected site. A remarkable narrative accompanied by stunning illustrations.

- Kaho'olawe is sacred to Native Hawaiians and is a physical form of the god of the sea, Kanaloa
- Has an epic scope that will appeal to fans of *Grand Canyon* by Jason Chin

Kamalani Hurley is a Native Hawaiian who writes stories for and about Native Hawaiian kids. She graduated from the Kamehameha Schools and then earned advanced degrees on the continent. She lives in Hawaii with her husband, daughters, and grandkids.

Harinani Kalohelani Orme is a Native Hawaiian artist who was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii. She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa and a Master of Fine Arts degree at the Pratt Institute in New York. Currently, her works focus on the myths, legends and traditions of old Hawaii.

Carolrhoda Books®

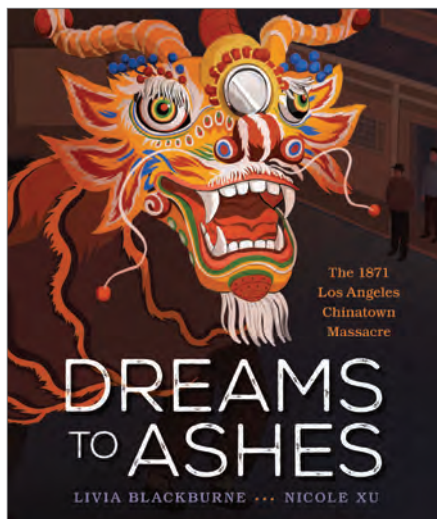
Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 7-11

February 4, 2025

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DRAMATIC RIGHTS, TEXT: BOOKENDS LITERARY AGENCY; DRAMATIC RIGHTS, ART: LERNER



Dreams to Ashes

The 1871 Los Angeles Chinatown Massacre

Livia Blackburne, illus. Nicole Xu

A powerful nonfiction picture book about the history of Chinese immigration to the West Coast, presented through the lens of the 1871 Los Angeles Chinatown Massacre. An essential account that offers both heartbreak and hope.

- #OwnVoices Chinese American author and illustrator
- A great fit for lessons on immigration
- Also ties in with lessons about the gold rush and perceptions of Chinese immigrants who came to the US seeking gold

Livia Blackburne is a Chinese American writer who penned her first novel while researching the neuroscience of reading at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is based in California.

Nicole Xu is an illustrator who was born in Shanghai, China, and grew up in Vancouver, Canada. She attended Rhode Island School of Design and has worked with numerous magazine clients. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.

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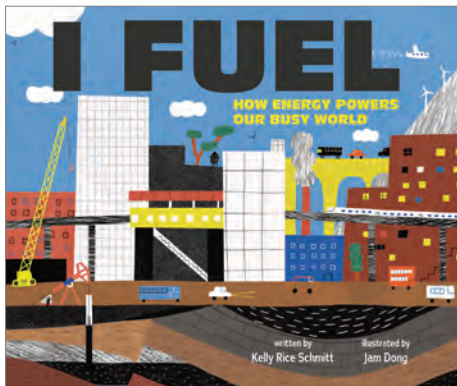
Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 40 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 7-11

March 4, 2025

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I Fuel

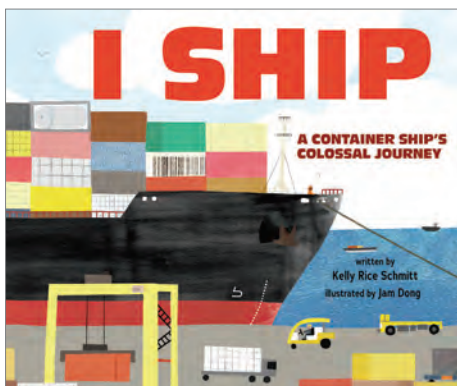
How We Power Our Busy World

Kelly Rice Schmitt, illus. Jam Dong

Wham! Whirr! Whoosh! Drillers bore into rock, and oil gushes out. See where fuel comes from and how we use it, and check out sources of renewable energy. A fun and fact-filled look at fuel!

- From the author-illustrator team behind *I Ship*
- An engaging and accessible look at where fuel comes from and the many ways we use it in the modern world
- Back matter includes facts about crude oil, fossil fuels, and alternative energy; tips for reducing energy usage; and suggested further reading

Also available



Kelly Rice Schmitt is an author of STEAM children's literature and is an advocate for girls in STEM, business, and other fields with gender gaps. She lives in North Carolina with her husband and young children.

Jam Dong was born in Shanghai, China. She has an MA degree of Moving Image at University of Arts London and graduated from MFA Illustration Practice of Maryland Institute College of Art in 2021. She is a freelance illustrator based in Boston, Massachusetts.

Millbrook Press™

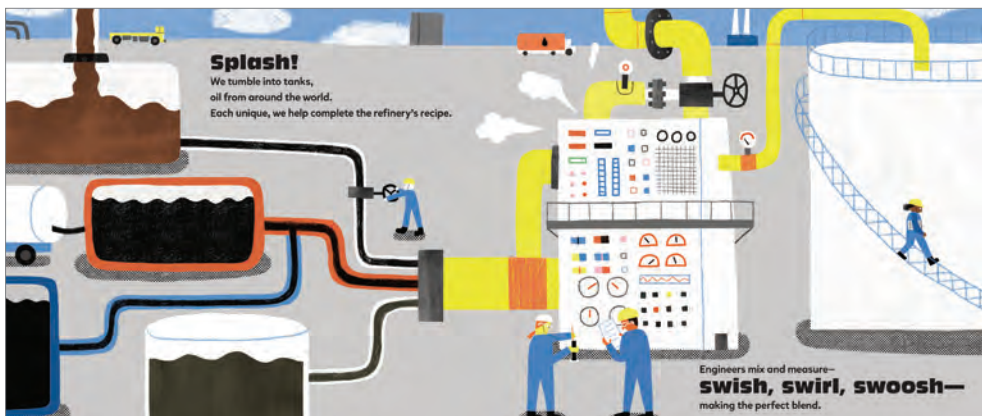
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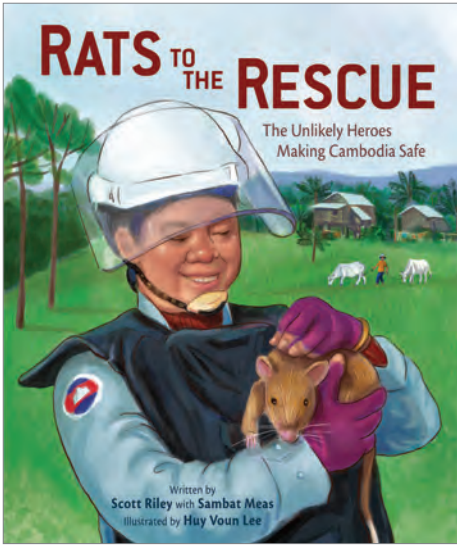
Pages: 40 • Trim: 10% x 8% • Ages: 5-9

October 1, 2024

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DRAMATIC RIGHTS, TEXT: ERIN MURPHY LITERARY AGENCY DRAMATIC RIGHTS, ART: PAINTED WORDS





Rats to the Rescue

The Unlikely Heroes Making Cambodia Safe

Scott Riley; Sambat Meas, illus. Huy Voun Lee

Heroes come in all shapes, sizes, and species! Discover how human deminers are working with specially trained HeroRATs to locate land mines and make Cambodia safe for everyone.

- A compelling true story thoroughly and accurately researched
- Focuses on hope and helpers as well as creative problem-solving

Scott Riley is a teacher and children's book author. His debut picture book *The Floating Field* has won multiple awards including the Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List, Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Books, and the Freeman Book Award. He lives in Singapore with his family.

As a child growing up in Cambodia, **Sambat Meas** could see that the deminers working to clear the country of landmines were heroes. He now works with Anti-Personnel Landmines Detection Product Development (APOPO) to help make Cambodia a safer place for everyone.

Huy Voun Lee came to the United States with her family at the age of six as a Cambodian refugee. A graduate of the School of Visual Arts, Huy is the author and illustrator of several picture books. She lives with her husband in New York City.

"A very interesting and compelling story that most young readers will be unaware of, and many will find fascinating."

— *School Library Journal*

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 40 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 6-10

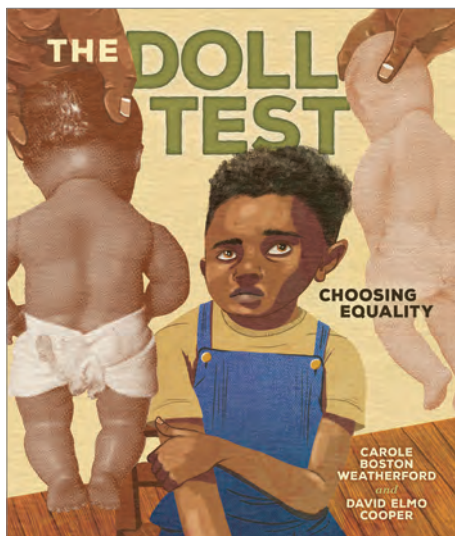
September 10, 2024

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DRAMATIC RIGHTS, TEXT: STIMOLA LITERARY STUDIO

DRAMATIC RIGHTS, ART: PAINTED WORDS





The Doll Test

Choosing Equality

Carole Boston Weatherford, illus. David Elmo Cooper

Narrated by dolls, this book tells the little-known story of two Black psychologists who used Black and white dolls in their research about the effects of school segregation on children.

- Highlights a little-known story from the Civil Rights Movement
- From award-winning author Carole Boston Weatherford

Carole Boston Weatherford is the award-winning author of numerous children's books. When she's not traveling or visiting museums, Carole is mining the past for family stories, fading traditions, and forgotten struggles. She lives in North Carolina.

David Cooper is a multi-media artist and muralist based in Brooklyn, New York. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of The Society of Publications Designers (SPD). His illustrated work includes the *NYT* best-selling book *Marcus Makes a Move* by actor Kevin Hart.

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 7-11

November 5, 2024

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO, ENHANCED EBOOK WITH AUDIOVISUAL ELEMENTS RIGHTS: LERNER
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 DRAMATIC RIGHTS, ART: LERNER

"An astonishing and solid purchase for libraries looking for history books about racial segregation."

— *School Library Journal*



The Mistakes That Made Us

Confessions from Twenty Poets

Irene Latham; Charles Waters, illus. Mercè López

Whoops! Ack! Darn it! Twenty brave poets share real-life blunders they made as young people. With a range of mistakes and a diverse group of poets, this anthology speaks to a wide audience.

- Poems all describe experiences the poets had in their youth
- Perfect for fans of *Can I Touch Your Hair?* and *Dictionary for a Better World*

Charles Waters is a children's poet, actor, and author. Charles conducts poetry performance workshops for elementary and middle school audiences across the nation. He lives in Georgia.

Irene Latham is the author of more than a dozen works of poetry, fiction, and picture books, including *Can I Touch Your Hair?* (co-written with Charles Waters). She lives in Alabama with her family.

Mercè López is an artist and illustrator who lives in Barcelona, Spain. Her illustrated work includes *I Am Smoke* and *Big Problems Little Problems*.

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$18.99

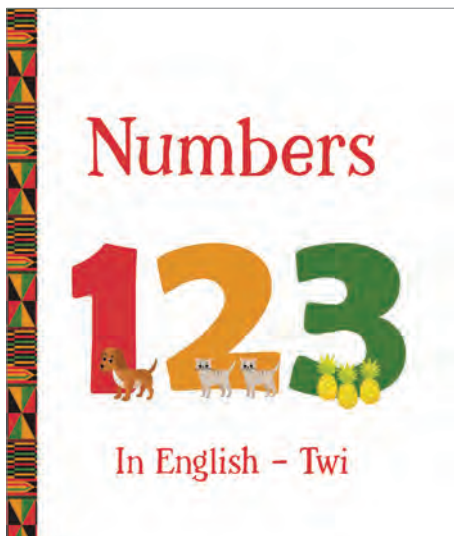
Pages: 40 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 7-11

October 1, 2024

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 DRAMATIC RIGHTS, TEXT: STIMOLA LITERARY STUDIO
 DRAMATIC RIGHTS, ART: LERNER

"Comforting reminders that nobody's perfect, infused with lessons large and small."

— *Kirkus Reviews*



Numbers 123 in English —Twi

Dr. Artika R. Tyner, illus. Bilal Karaca

Twi is the language widely spoken throughout Ghana. Unlock the world of bilingual learning with this introduction to basic Twi vocabulary. Children will embark on a journey of learning how to count by identifying common items.

- Engaging counting format
- Introduces children to world language and culture
- Pronunciation recordings available

Dr. Artika Tyner is a passionate educator, award-winning author, civil rights attorney, sought-after speaker, and advocate for justice. She lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and is the founder of the Planting People Growing Justice Leadership Institute.

Bilal Karaca graduated from the Traditional Turkish Arts Department, Fine Arts Faculty of Selçuk University. He has illustrated various children's books and magazines.

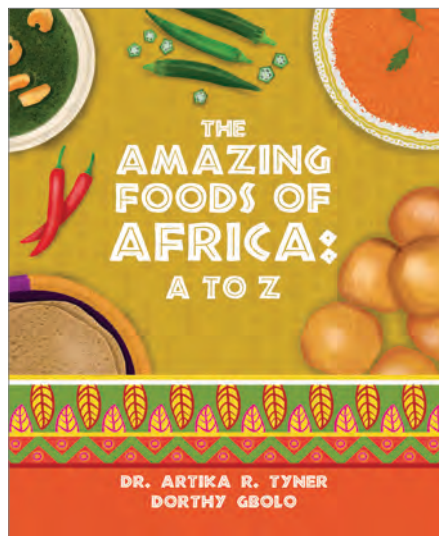
Planting People Growing Justice Press

Price: PB: \$7.99

Pages: 16 • Trim: 6 x 9 • Ages: 3-8

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: PLANTING PEOPLE GROWING JUSTICE PRESS C/O LERNER



The Amazing Foods of Africa A to Z

Dr. Artika R. Tyner; Dorothy Gbolo, illus. Reyhana Ismail

From attiéké to zobo and all the amazing foods in between, embark on a flavorful journey through Africa's diverse cuisine—where cultural exploration meets culinary adventure. Readers will discover the traditional ingredients and dishes cooked and enjoyed in many African countries.

- Fosters interactive learning and cultural celebration
- Promotes healthy eating
- Inspires creativity

Dr. Artika Tyner is a passionate educator, award-winning author, civil rights attorney, sought-after speaker, and advocate for justice. She lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and is the founder of the Planting People Growing Justice Leadership Institute.

Dorthy Gbolo is a first-generation Liberian American who calls St. Paul her home. Dorthy's catering business specializes in Liberian and African American cuisine, using both to bring the two communities together and provide an affordable alternative food option.

Reyhana Ismail is a designer and illustrator from the UK. She has designed a wide range of books and is particularly passionate about working with publishers that encourage a love of reading through representation and inclusion.

Planting People Growing Justice Press

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9-11 • Ages: 7-11

January 1, 2025

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Shirley Chisholm Champion of Change

Tonya Allen, illus. Chasity Hampton

Discover the extraordinary life of Shirley Chisholm, a trailblazing leader who defied the odds and inspired generations to dream big and break barriers. Her legacy paved the way for other women, especially Black women, to become difference makers too.

- Celebrates Black history
- Inspires and empowers young people to be leaders
- Encourages civic engagement

Dr. Tonya Allen has worked in the field of education for over 20 years with a focus on empowering others. She lives in Brooklyn Park, MN, with her family.

Chasity Hampton has been a professional illustrator for a decade. Starting Whimsical Designs by CJ, LLC, she aspired to craft art that reconnects people with their inner child. Hampton endeavors to evoke a sense of wonder and nostalgia through her art.

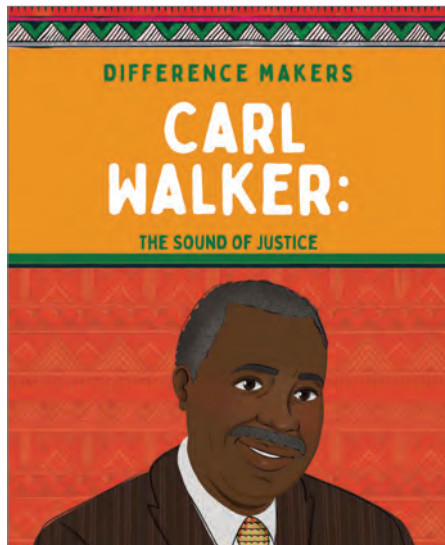
Planting People Growing Justice Press

Price: HC: \$30.65

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6 x 9 • Ages: 9-14

January 1, 2025

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C/O LERNER



Carl Walker The Sound of Justice

Phillip Majeste, illus. Chasity Hampton

Carl Walker is a musician, pastor, and the founder of Walker West Music Academy in St. Paul, Minnesota. Driven by a mission to use music to uplift his community, he has brought the joy of music to thousands of people.

- Celebrates Black history
- Inspires and empowers young people to be leaders
- Encourages civic engagement

Majeste Phillip is a passion-filled creative, striving to utilize her gifts of writing to challenge and inspire the world.

Chasity Hampton has been a professional illustrator for a decade. Starting Whimsical Designs by CJ, LLC, she aspired to craft art that reconnects people with their inner child. Hampton endeavors to evoke a sense of wonder and nostalgia through her art.

Planting People Growing Justice Press

Price: HC: \$30.65

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6 x 9 • Ages: 9-14

January 1, 2025

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C/O LERNER



The Pecan Sheller

Lupe Ruiz-Flores

In 1930s San Antonio, thirteen-year-old Petra must drop out of school to work at a pecan-shelling factory. When dangerous conditions lead to tragedy and the already low wages are cut, Petra helps plan a strike.

- Centers on the real 1938 pecan shellers' strike in San Antonio, Texas, a groundbreaking event in labor organizing history
- Author based some of Petra's experiences on those of her grandmother, who worked in a pecan factory
- Author conducted interviews with pecan shellers from this era as part of her research

Lupe Ruiz-Flores is the author of short stories, poems, and bilingual picture books. A former regional advisor for the Southwest Chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writer & Illustrators, she lives in San Antonio, Texas.

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 256 • Trim: 5¼ x 7½ • Ages: 10-14

April 1, 2025

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER
DRAMATIC RIGHTS: UPSTART CROW

CHAPTER 3 HIRED

The day after Petra left school, Amá and Petra walked down Guadalupe Street toward the pecan factory where Amá worked. A group of little kids, carrying books and chatting with one another, walked the opposite way—toward school. The air felt heavy. Petra kept her eyes downcast and dragged her feet, lengthening the distance between herself and Amá.

"Hurry!" Amá urged. "I'm already late."

That morning, Samuel had misplaced a shoe, and the whole family had frantically searched the entire house until Elena found it stashed behind the stove. Samuel had burst into tears. "That shoe has holes in it. I don't want to wear it."

"You will wear those shoes until we can afford new ones," Amá had said, exasperated, before rushing Petra out the door.

"It's not *my* fault you're running late," Petra muttered under her breath now. She didn't care if her stepmother overheard her insolence or saw the anger in her eyes.

But Amá wasn't even looking at her. She was too busy maneuvering around puddles of water from the recent thunderstorm.

A police siren broke the morning's silence. Amá froze, clutched her chest, and breathed hard until the sound faded.

This was not the first time Amá had reacted like that. Once, when a police officer was directing traffic in front of Petra's elementary school, Amá had turned around and run in the opposite direction, leaving Petra to walk the rest of the way to the school's entrance by herself. Petra had often asked her why she was so afraid of the police, but Amá never answered.

A few more blocks and they arrived at Amá's place of work, one of the city's hundreds of pecan factories. Amá stopped in front of the shabby, white-washed single-story building, which stood a few yards back from the street. There was no sidewalk, only a well-worn dusty path and some overgrown weeds. The huge double doors stood wide open.



Digger Dig or Die!

Deborah Cholette, illus. Davide Ortu

Siblings Nick and Lily combine their talents to dig life-saving tunnels between houses as Earth's atmosphere leaks into space, forcing a desperate race for survival against dwindling oxygen.

- A fast-paced dystopian novel about siblings working together to survive an environmental disaster
- Features multi-ethnic characters
- Deals with the effects of climate change

Deborah Cholette loves sci-fi and fantasy . . . especially dystopian fiction. While her daughter travels the world, Deborah lives and breathes clean air in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Davide Ortu is an Italian artist now living in Spain. He studied Art at Cagliari Arts Lyceum in Foiso Fois, Sardinia. He now lives in Madrid where he enjoys the world of children's book illustrations.

One Elm Books — Red Chair Press

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 240 • Trim: 5¼ x 7¾ • Ages: 9-12

February 4, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: RED CHAIR PRESS C/O LERNER

his age and often got picked on by Butch, the neighborhood jerk. But then...so did I.

My classmates laughed as our teacher opened the door and shouted, "Stewie...stop! Stewie Chen! Stop right now!"

But he just kept on running past again.

Everyone got up from their seats and gathered around the door. I too, got up and pushed my way to the front.



Down the hall, Miss Wilson, my sister Lily's teacher, stepped out of her class. She almost had to tackle Stewie to stop him, then held him tightly by the shoulders. "Stewie, calm down."

He was in distress, trying to catch his breath. "What about the sky?" she asked, letting go.

He reached into his pocket for his inhaler and stuck it into his mouth. He had bad asthma that got worse when he was upset...which was pretty much all of the time.

He looked at Miss Wilson, then up and down the hall at the rest of us. Many teachers and students were now standing outside their classes watching the drama.

"The...the...sky...is falling," he squeaked out in between gasps.

Stewie tended to exaggerate things but I had a bad feeling that something was really wrong. A few students checked their cell phones, shaking their heads, unable to connect.

I walked towards Stewie. "Hey bud, what's with all the yelling?"

He took another puff from his inhaler before he could speak. "Nick—the sky is



Somebody's Someone

Linda Oatman High, illus. Yai Dzamesi

Ruby Bean, a 12-year-old Accidental Expert on Missing Mothers, embarks on a cross-country journey with her aunt to find her missing mother, who suffers from mental illness and addiction.

- A touching and heart-breaking novel about a young girl's struggles with a mother suffering from addiction and mental illness
- Nearly 1 in 8 people worldwide will have a diagnosable mental health condition in any given year

Linda Oatman High is an author/journalist/playwright who has written more than 30 books for children and teens, many of which have won major awards and honors. She holds an MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Vermont College.

Yai Dzamesi is an award-winning illustrator and visual storyteller who is passionate about bringing meaningful stories to life that both comfort and challenge her readers. She lives in North Carolina.

One Elm Books — Red Chair Press

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 184 • Trim: 5¼ x 7¾ • Ages: 10-14

March 4, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: RED CHAIR PRESS C/O LERNER

she's talking about. After all, she's known my Mama even longer than I have.

It all started when Mama started believing that the neighbors Ed and Wanda were secretly filming our house. She thought they were somehow connected to the FBI and the CIA and the government. I was almost two when all that happened, says Aunt Marion.

"Toddling around in your own little world while your Mama went crazy," she says. "Lucky for you: you had no idea what was going on."

And then there were the never-ending circles of places where Mama needed to be: hospitals and rehabs and treatment centers and jails. Halfway Houses, when she was halfway between The Places and Us. She might as well be halfway between the earth and the moon, for all the good it does.

So, this is my life. This is all our lives: Mama and Aunt Marion and me, Grammy and Pop and Mason Gordon and the people who work with Mama when she keeps a job for a while. Sometimes it makes me mad: that we are the ones who get stuck with this stupid illness and what it does to the ones who love the sick person. What it does to *Mama*, who's such a

good lady. It's just not fair and I just get mad and I don't really care.

And today, I'm mad at those happy birds in those green trees who are chirping away without a care in the world.

Please be quiet, I think inside of my head, trying to be semi-polite even though I'm so angry and annoyed. Aunt Marion taught me right, I suppose. *Try to be nice. Don't say Shut Up. Mind your manners.*

Aunt Marion hands me a stack of the Missing posters. They are a super-heavy stack in my arms, but I carry them, pressing them next to my chest. I can carry heavy things. I can. I do.





"A conservation tale with the ability to empower readers."

—Kirkus Reviews

Make a Little Wave

Kerry O'Malley Cerra

When shy Savannah discovers her friend's family is involved in inhumanely killing endangered sharks for profit, she forces herself out of her comfort zone to stand up for the sharks.

- Deaf representation: Sav has cochlear implants that allow her to hear after a lifetime of progressive hearing loss
- Non-heavy-handed exploration of youth activism in the age of social media (and of climate crises)

Kerry O'Malley Cerra is the author of *Hear Me* and the award-winning middle-grade novel *Just a Drop of Water*. She holds a degree in social science education and currently works as a high school media specialist. She lives in Florida with her family and two rescue dogs.

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 360 • Trim: 5¼ x 7½ • Ages: 11-14

October 1, 2024

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER
 DRAMATIC RIGHTS: JANINE LE LITERARY AGENCY

Chapter 9

I'm getting bashed on Click'd. Grant deleted my comment about him and Tanner killing the shark—and claims I'm actually the one who did it.

Thanks to Grant, Tanner, the Markells, and the finners in the documentary, my insides feel like the volcano I made in fifth grade—vinegar and baking soda mashing together and fizzing in my belly before the explosion.

I screencap a photo of a finned shark. It's graphic. And gross. And sad. But it's also real. I type, *Truth. Fins cut while shark was alive. Can you believe it? Who's angry? Besides me? Help stop this. Meeting. Sealorste Café. Wednesday 4.*

I add some hashtags, including Arbor's name, and tag her at the end of my post. Now that she's popular, I'm hoping that'll help me get more followers. And I hope Tanner will see the photo and

realize how awful finning is.

I hit Post and scroll through my feed. I've followed as many pro-shark accounts as I could find: Shark Allies, the Shark Conservancy of Florida, and the Coalition for Sharks. That last one just posted to thank people for showing up to their meeting in Fort Lauderdale. Looks like they're local. Do they know about the shark finning stuff?

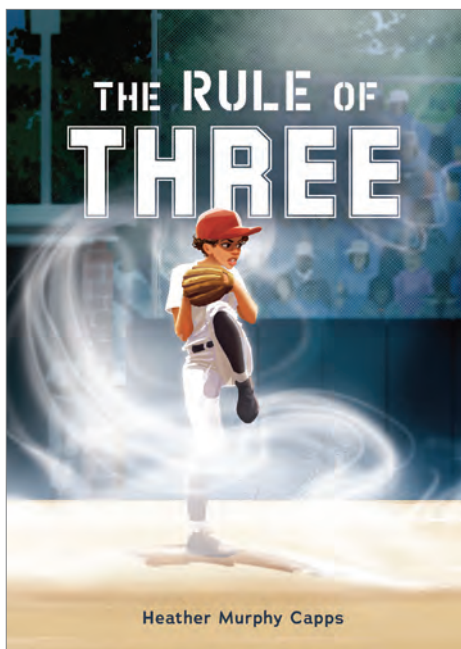
I send them a note about the Salt House. Maybe we can team up and fight for the sharks together.

When I call, Maisy's on her way to a pool party for Jason, a boy in our class. Or *her* class, I guess. Too bad it's not still mine.

"Sorry, Sav," she says once I've given her a mini-update. "I hope you never have to talk to Tanner again."

"That's my plan. Unless, of course, he decides to see things my way. If not, he's still gonna hear from me, but we definitely won't be hanging out."

"Go, you!" She high-fives me on the screen before turning her phone so I can see that her car's pulling up at Jason's house. "Talk to you later?"



The Rule of Three

Heather Murphy Capps

As a biracial kid in a mostly white town, Wyatt feels like an outsider everywhere except the baseball field. But when travel team tryouts get tense, mysterious wisps of smoke surround him. Can he discover the cause of—and learn to control—this unusual stress reaction?

- Authentic portrayal of a biracial character, written by a biracial author
- Incorporates a touch of magic, filtering weighty topics through a distinctive lens
- Sensitively and accessibly explores racial discrimination as well as intergenerational trauma and healing

Heather Murphy Capps writes about history, social justice, science, and magic. She is a mother of two, an Army wife, and an education equity activist. As a biracial author, she's passionate about creating more diversity in publishing. Her debut novel, *Indigo and Ida*, was published by Lerner in 2023.

Carolrhoda Books®

Price: HC: \$19.99

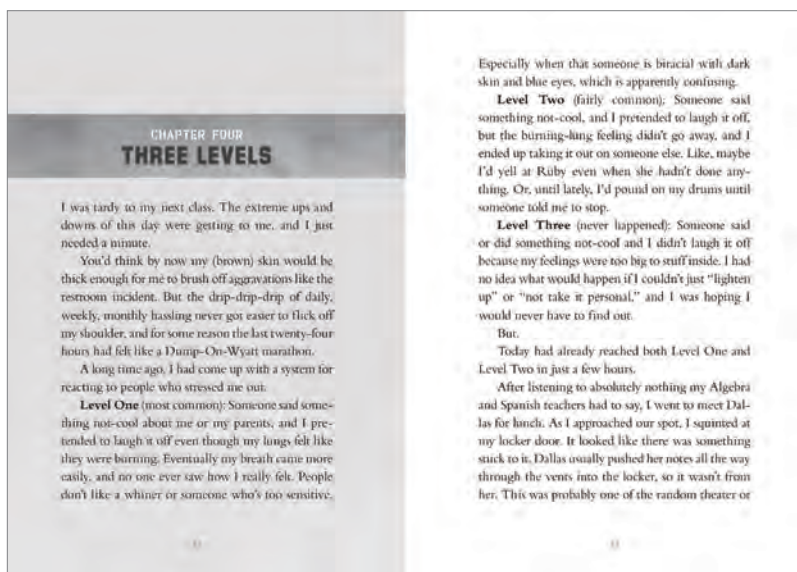
Pages: 304 • Trim: 5¼ x 7½ • Ages: 11-14

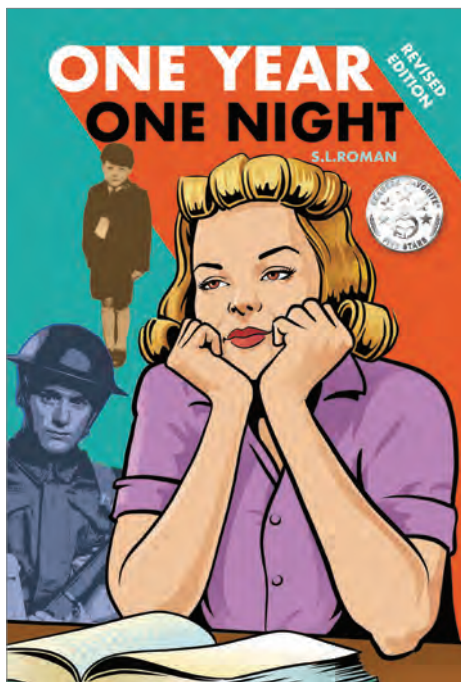
August 6, 2024

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER
DRAMATIC RIGHTS: MARSAL LYON LITERARY AGENCY

"Capps incorporates real-life events—as discussed in an author's note—to tell an illuminating tale that utilizes a physical manifestation of trauma to effectively demonstrate the compounding results of racism across generations."

—Publishers Weekly





One Year, One Night (2nd Edition)

S. L. Roman, illus. Kevin Hopgood

Annie returns to her home village after a long absence and rediscovers the diary she kept the year she turned 16, the year that changed her life. Based on a true event in England during World War II.

- Based on real-life events
- For fans of Jojo Moyes' *Me Before You*
- Includes a note explaining historical context
- Originally published in the UK, this edition has been substantially revised with new illustrations and back matter

S.L. Roman is a pseudonym for Laura Meloni and Sarah Onions. With surnames of Meloni and Onions, they thought they sounded more like a vegetable market, so they came up with S.L. Roman (in homage to Laura's native city, Rome). Both have been teachers at the high school level.

Kevin Hopgood is a children's illustrator and comic book artist. Past clients include Marvel comics, Oxford University Press, Barrington Stoke, and Franklin Watts.

One Elm Books — Red Chair Press

Price: HC: \$16.99

Pages: 152 • Trim: 5¼ x 7¾ • Ages: 11-18

August 6, 2024

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as first choice and considered desirable guests.

Thurs. 25 Jan

This morning Billy brought a letter from Dad! He's alright and has started his training as a driver—after that some words and sentences were heavily blacked out. He says he misses us all even Auntie Betty (but not as much as I miss him, I'm sure). He said next time he would send us a photo. I can't wait to see him in his uniform.

Later Mrs. Harrigan popped into the shop to buy some paint brushes. I think her husband isn't happy with Dad not being here to serve him.

Anyway, she had the little blond boy by her side. He was pale and had an anxious look about him. I greeted him with a friendly hello but he didn't answer:

'Where's yer mariners' Mrs. Harrigan barked at him.

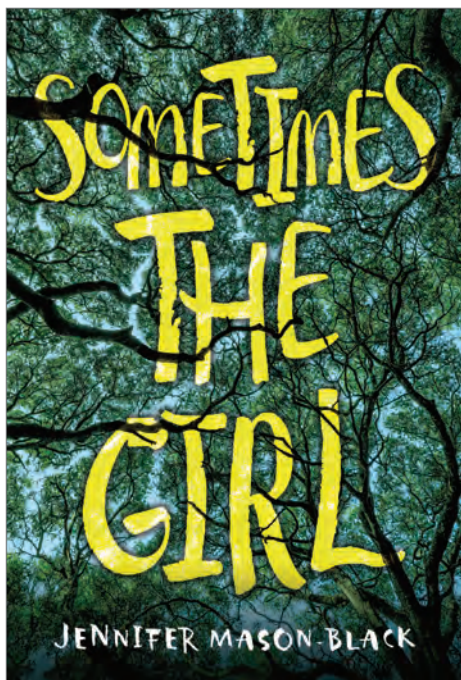
The boy jumped and whispered
'Hello Miss'.

'Not miss, my name is Annie, what's your name?'

'Ben'.

I got closer and reached out to muss his hair—and he flinched as if afraid. Then Mrs. Harrigan dragged him out of the shop. Poor kid, why isn't he at school?





Sometimes the Girl

Jennifer Mason-Black

When eighteen-year-old Holiday, an aspiring writer, gets a short-term job sorting through the attic of an acclaimed elderly author, the author's secrets change how Holi views art and life.

- Wraps a suspenseful literary mystery in an exploration of meaty questions about writing, fame, identity, and integrity
- Savvy readers will recognize echoes of Harper Lee (*To Kill A Mockingbird*) in the complicated character of Elsie
- Offers nuanced queer rep and sensitive treatment of complex topics (drug addiction, suicide, depression)

Jennifer Mason-Black is an author of books and short stories, including the young adult novel *Devil and the Bluebird*. She lives and writes in Massachusetts, in a place where there are far more trees than people and where foxes dance with owls on midwinter nights.

Carolrhoda Lab®

Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: TBD • Trim: 5½ x 8¼ • Ages: 14-18

May 6, 2025

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DRAMATIC RIGHTS: SPEILBURG LITERARY AGENCY

4

It's not until late in the afternoon that I find any evidence of her having written a book. The last box I reach for doesn't have a handwritten label like everything else so far—*Lampshades or Candles or Minor Novels*.

Instead, there's a packing slip taped to the outside when I rotate it. I open it anyway, as required, to make sure that it really does contain twenty-four copies of *Tongues as of Fire*.

It's a strange title. In ninth-grade English, Mr. Cooper explained that it came from the Bible and had to do with Pentecost. Not that this cleared anything up. But the title didn't stop me. I read the whole book in two days, then started again, this time more slowly so I could savor the language. At least half the class skipped it completely, relying on the Wikipedia summary instead.

The copy I pick up is pristine. No creases, the dust jacket free of any signs of wear. I open it. The pages make that crackling sound of a new book springing to life.

Only this one isn't new. This one is almost fifty years older than I am. I turn to the first page.

The night the world burned, my mother woke me from sleep with the light of her lanterns and the touch of her fingers.

I can hear Elsie reading it. Not how she sounds now—the way she sounded on the old vinyl Mr. Cooper brought into class,

a scratchy recording of a reading she gave in the late '50s. Her voice was strong. No nonsense. At least that's how I remember it. I could probably find it on YouTube if I wanted.

Sticky fingers isn't my vice, but right at this moment, I want one of these books. The box is complete, all twenty-four copies. Even if I could stuff one down my shorts and carry it out, it would be obvious later that one's missing.

Why would she have done that—left the entire box untouched? I put the copy back, run a hand over the stack of spines. Then again, why did she stop writing after one book?

"Some people have just one thing they want to say to the world," Mr. Cooper told us. "Maybe when you write something that good, that true, that captures something so essential, then you don't feel you need to write more."

It sounded reasonable at the time. I pick up the copy again, look at the back flap. The author photo, surprisingly, isn't a glossy posed one. Someone caught young Elsie with her head turned, her bob ruffled by wind. Something short of a smile rests on her lips. She wasn't hot, exactly, but still, something about her makes you want to look again. And again.

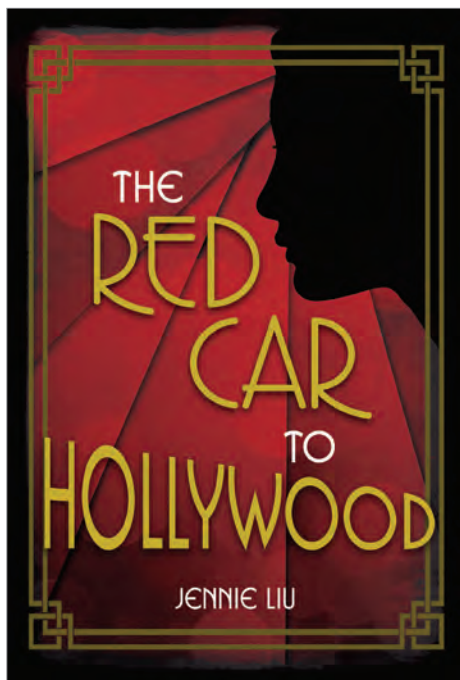
I try to imagine that woman laying down her pen or typing *The End* on the paper in her typewriter, pushing away from her desk, and . . . quitting. Saying *been there, done that*.

I suspect that's exactly the kind of thing she means when she tells me to respect her privacy and not snoop.

But this attic is both vast and very full. Peck rats don't pack-rat everything except their writing. Odds are, the answer to why she stopped is here.

The box contains one other thing, laid under the top two books. A single sheet of paper, a single line centered on the page:

A yellow sweater with mismatched buttons.



The Red Car to Hollywood

Jennie Liu

In LA's Chinatown in 1924, sixteen-year-old Ruby Chan rebels against her parents' conventional plans for her future. A friendship with nineteen-year-old Anna May Wong, a rising Hollywood film star, opens up new possibilities.

- Will appeal to fans of Malinda Lo's *Last Night at the Telegraph Club* (set in 1950s San Francisco) and Stacey Lee's *Kill Her Twice* (set in 1930s LA)
- Depicts the drama and tensions of the silent film era, including the relationship between Hollywood and LA's Chinatown
- Anna May Wong (1905–1961) has received renewed attention and appreciation in recent years as a complicated but important Asian American pioneer in film

Jennie Liu is the daughter of Chinese immigrants and a longtime resident of Asheville, North Carolina, where she lives with her husband and two children. Her work includes *Girls on the Line*, *Like Spilled Water*, and *Enly and the Buskin' Blues*.

Carolrhoda Lab®

Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 256 • Trim: 5½ x 8¾ • Ages: 14-18

March 4, 2025

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DRAMATIC RIGHTS: MARSAL LYON LITERARY AGENCY LLC

2

MARCH 1924

The funny thing was that Mrs. Kuen was the one who inadvertently connected Russell and me when she arranged my piano lessons with his sister Irene.

We had moved to Los Angeles from San Francisco in late-February, when Ba took a partnership with Mr. Lew. A couple of weeks after we settled in, Mrs. Kuen visited Ma to invite us to the Chinese Methodist Church. Ma led her upstairs to our sitting room. Perched on our worn velvet sofa, Mrs. Kuen let her eyes wander over the altar table with the brass incense burner, the red scrolls that recorded our ancestors' names, Ba's rocking chair with the padded leather seat, and Ma's embroidery loom resting on a worktable. It was more than a little proud of our mix of secondhand American furniture and marred Chinese pieces from the shop, proud that Ba had been successful enough to move us beyond a single crowded room.

When Mrs. Kuen spotted our small piano and asked who played, Ma told her that I was self-taught. Mrs. Kuen asked me to play for her, so I sat down and pounded out "Everyone Loves My Baby," or at least my best rendition of it. I'd heard the song often back in San Francisco at my friend Mary's place. Her family owned a big shirt factory and had a Radiola.

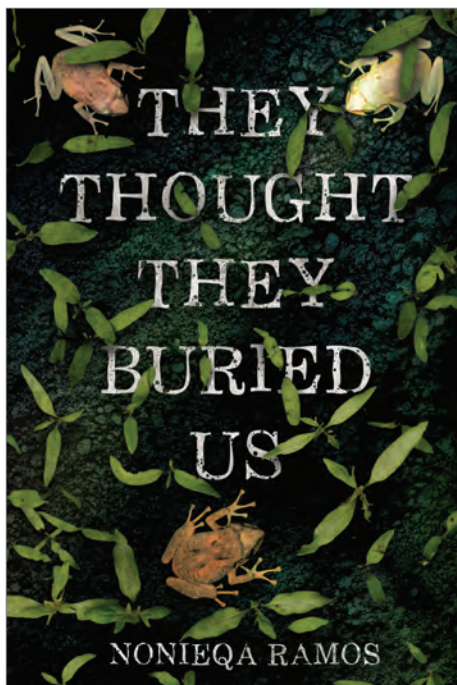
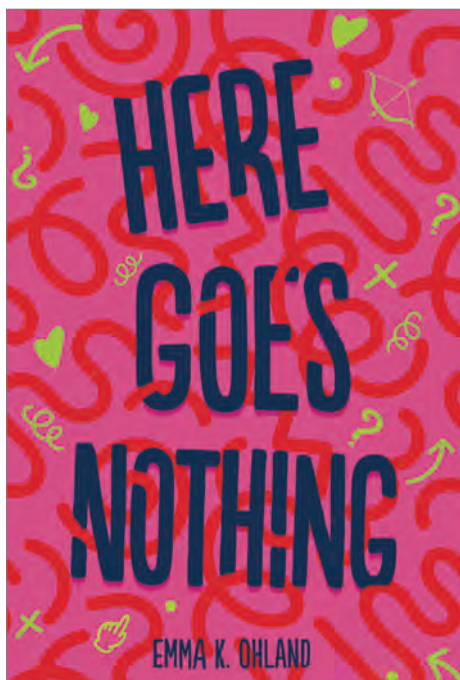
Mrs. Kuen's mouth twitched. I couldn't tell what displeased

her more: the loud, jazzy tune, or the dropped notes from the broken or out-of-tune keys. She mentioned that the church was saving up for a piano and suggested that I learn to read music so I could play at services. She had associations with another church, First Methodist, and knew of a girl from that congregation who gave lessons.

Although the prospect of playing hymns in church didn't particularly excite me, I agreed, hoping at least I could make some friends that way. Our move to Los Angeles had been a big letdown. Chinatown in San Francisco had been like its own city. We'd rarely needed to venture beyond the eight or ten square blocks of the district, where we had our own churches, schools, theaters, stores of all kinds. I had friends I'd grown up with, gone to school with all my life. My friends and I, boys included, had sometimes slipped out in the evenings and gathered at the corner near the lamppost to gab—at least until the disapproving frowns of elders drove us home.

But here in Los Angeles, the Chinatown quarter was much smaller. Many of the buildings were rickety and crumbling, with only one or two stories. The side streets were still unpaved, fading out to the barren pebbly lots of a railway and a gas plant. Beyond those were the dirt roads and garden plots of the vegetable sellers who rickled by in the early mornings with their horses and carts. It was as if the had brought us to some remote outpost.

There were far fewer kids my age here, so we didn't even have our own high school. I'd ended up at Polytech, a mostly white school, unlike my old school where everyone was Chinese. I'd only seen a couple of other Chinese students on campus, plus a few Japanese, Korean, and Mexican kids. No one was friendly. I moved around the halls feeling invisible. Only after I'd been enrolled a couple of weeks had we found out that most of the Chinatown kids went to Lincoln High.



Here Goes Nothing

Emma K. Ohland

Eighteen-year-old Beatrice isn't a fan of her neighbor Bennie, but when Beatrice's sister starts dating Bennie's friend and throws them into frequent contact, Beatrice must wrestle with complicated feelings and questions about her identity.

- A modern retelling of *Much Ado about Nothing*, featuring an enemies-to-lovers arc, one of the most popular rom com tropes in the YA market
- As much a story about family and identity as it is a love story
- Shakespeare retellings, remixes, and modernizations remain popular

Emma K. Ohland (she/they) is an author based in Texas. She earned her B.A. in English Literature from Purdue University, but she has been telling stories since childhood. Her debut novel, *Funeral Girl*, was published by Lerner in 2022.

Carolrhoda Lab®

Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 272 • Trim: 5½ x 8¼ • Ages: 13-18

November 5, 2024

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER
 DRAMATIC RIGHTS: DYSTEL, GODERICH & BOURRET LLC

They Thought They Buried Us

NoNieqa Ramos

Horror movie fan Yuiza gets a scholarship to a prestigious boarding school that isn't what it seems. Yuiza must uncover the school's sinister secrets and try to get out alive.

- *American Horror Story* meets *Get Out* meets *Level 16*
- A propulsive yet intimate read
- Part horror, part mystery, part coming of age story

Author, educator, and bat apprentice, **NoNieqa Ramos** loves kids, books, and underdogs. Their work includes the YA novel *The Disturbed Girl's Dictionary*, and picture books *Your Mama* and *Hair Story*.

Carolrhoda Lab®

Price: HC: \$19.99

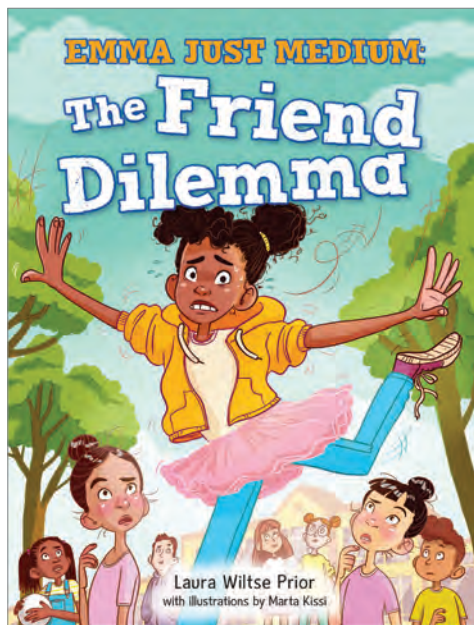
Pages: 368 • Trim: 5½ x 8¼ • Ages: 14-18

September 10, 2024

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER
 DRAMATIC RIGHTS: FOREWORD LITERARY D/B/A FUSE LITERARY

"Fans of horror movies in particular will appreciate this creepy story that centers survival for queer, BIPOC characters in the face of white supremacy."

— **Booklist**



The Friend Dilemma

Laura Wiltse Prior, illus. Marta Kissi

Emma is eager to see her friends Lily and Amelia when third grade begins. But her friends' interests have changed: Lily became a ballerina; Amelia lost interest in science. And as third grade unfolds, more differences start popping up left and right.

- Demonstrates self-awareness and acceptance
- Highlights friendship

Laura Wiltse Prior is a middle grade author who loves cookie dough, reading, and tennis. She lives and writes in Connecticut with her husband and three kids, the inspiration for her stories.

Marta Kissi lives and works in London. She earned a BA at Kingston University and MA at the Royal College of Art. Her favorite part of being an illustrator is designing the characters—especially the villains!

One Elm Books — Red Chair Press

Price: HC: \$15.99

Pages: 88 • Trim: 6 x 8 • Ages: 7-11

February 4, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: RED CHAIR PRESS C/O LERNER



Second Chance

A Baseball Buddies Story

Aaron Derr, illus. Matt Rowe

The Manatees, led by new captain Luis, find joy this baseball season. Embracing teamwork, they welcome troubled players Ty and Savannah for a second chance. Can they all work together to beat the league's best, the Dragons?

- For fans of Matt Christopher
- Features a multicultural and mixed-gender team

Aaron Derr lives outside Dallas, Texas, with his family. He has more than 15 years of experience writing and editing magazines and books for kids of all ages.

Matt Rowe lives in Worcestershire in the United Kingdom and has turned his passion for illustration into a career spanning over twenty years. Outside of illustration, Matt enjoys running, cycling, and family walks to recharge and find inspiration.

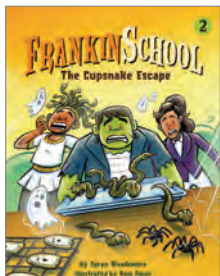
Red Chair Press Books for Young Readers

Price: HC: \$16.99

Pages: 160 • Trim: 5¼ x 7¾ • Ages: 7-11

March 4, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: RED CHAIR PRESS C/O LERNER



FrankinSchool

Caryn Rivadeneira, illus. Dani Jones

In this funny and fantastical series, Fred—now FrankinSchool—must face each mysterious adventure that comes his way after his "What-If" poems take on a life of their own. Each story illustrates the power of pretending and how imaginations and creativity can lead to forgiveness, better understanding, and acceptance of one another.

- Comparable series to best-selling *Junior Monster Scouts*
- Award winning illustrator of *Monsters vs. Kittens* and *Dinosaurs vs. Puppies*

Caryn Rivadeneira dreamed of two things as a kid: being a writer and having lots of dogs. Both came true. Caryn and her rescued pit bull live in the Chicago suburbs.

Dani Jones is an award-winning illustrator, artist, comics creator, and writer living in New Hampshire. She is the illustrator of the *New York Times* best-selling kids' graphic novel *Zombies' Day Off*.

Red Chair Press

Price: HC: \$16.99

Pages: 120 • Trim: 6 x 8 • Ages: 7-11

Fall 2023 - Fall 2024

ALL RIGHTS: RED CHAIR PRESS C/O LERNER



CHAPTER 1: IVY TOWERS

The school bus screeched to a stop. The walls and turrets of the high school loomed above the bus like a castle—or a fortress.

Ms. Martinez already told them they'd have to wait on the bus until all the teams arrived. Every year, the high school students offered a "clap in" to the Ook and Spook School Bake-Off teams as they arrived. Apparently, it was all part of the "fun."

Ugh. Fred's tummy rumbled with nerves



Lily Lu to the Rescue

Cherilyn Chin, illus. Tracy Nishimura Bishop

Lily Lu loves animals. She tags along with her marine biologist mom to meet, and often help, animals all over the world. Young readers will love joining Lily on her adventures in these early chapter books.

- Lily's mom, Dr. Ona Lu, is a marine biologist who writes books about what different scientists are studying
- Full-color illustration on every spread; large readable text perfect for beginning readers
- Frontmatter introduces Lily and the titular animal
- Backmatter contains three "Think About It" questions as well as nonfiction feature that ties to book content

Cherilyn Chin is an aquarist and marine biologist. She is the author of the *Lily Lu to the Rescue* series and the award-winning blog *Ocean of Hope*. She is based in California.

Tracy Nishimura Bishop is a children's book illustrator working in San Jose, California. She earned her degree in animation and illustration from San Jose State University. She now works as a full-time illustrator and freelance artist.

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 5 x 7½ • Ages: 5-8

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER

Chapter 3 So Much Trash

"Dr. Sophia," Lily cried. "The sea turtle is caught in a net. We need to help her!"

Dr. Sophia passed out special scissors.

Snip, snip, snip.

Lily and the others worked quickly and carefully. After one last *snip*, Lily pulled up the fishing net. The sea turtle was free! Lily smiled when the sea turtle made it safely to the ocean.

18





Queen Bee

Priti Birla Maheshwari, illus. Rea Zhai

Beena loves all things royal, which is why her friends call her Queen Bee! Join Bee on her everyday adventures in this early chapter book series fit for young queens and kings.

- Fun stories for beginning readers with simple, accessible text
- Back matter includes Think About It questions, glossary of cultural terms, and an activity

Priti Birla Maheshwari was born in India and raised in Montreal and Toronto, Canada. She graduated from the University of Toronto and went on to publish her debut award-winning picture book *Chaiwala!* in 2021. **Queen Bee** is her first early chapter book series.

Rea Zhai is a freelance children's illustrator. She earned her master's degree in illustration from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, California, and currently lives in Beijing, China, with her husband, baby girl, and their cats and dogs.

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$7.99

Pages: 24 • Trim: 5 x 7½ • Ages: 5-8

August 1, 2024

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



Hair Magic (Read Woke™ Chapter Books)

Cicely Lewis, illus. Anastasia Magloire Williams

Shimmer, sparkle, twirl . . . Imani's hair magically changes when she embraces her inner powers, such as bravery, compassion, creativity, and more. Young readers will love following Imani's adventures with her hair magic in these early chapter books.

- Celebrates Black hair and promotes positivity for all readers
- Each story ties to an social-emotional learning trait

Cicely Lewis is a writer and librarian living in Georgia. She is the founder of the #ReadWoke movement and was recognized by *School Library Journal* as the 2020 School Librarian of the Year.

Anastasia Magloire Williams is an illustrator, storyteller, and graphic designer living in sunny Florida. It is her passion to paint colorful adventures, reveal important history, and tell untold stories that reflect the diverse world we all share.

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 40 • Trim: 5 x 7½ • Ages: 6-9

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



Bo at the Buzz (Read Woke™ Chapter Books)

Elliott Smith, illus. Subi Bosa

Bo's life is always buzzing. And not just because he lives upstairs from The Buzz, a barbershop. Young readers will love following Bo's daily life and adventures in these early chapter books.

- Engaging early chapter book series that's perfect for young readers
- Authentic look at the role of Black barbershops in a community
- Full-color illustrations

Elliott Smith is a writer and editor based in Falls Church, Virginia.

Subi Bosa is an illustrator of picture books, comics, and graphic novels currently based in Cape Town, South Africa. In 2020, Subi was awarded a Mo Siewcharan Publisher's Prize for Illustration.

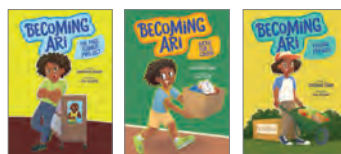
Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 5 x 7½ • Ages: 6-9

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



Becoming Ari

Christopher Stewart, illus. Lala Stellune

Nine-year-old Ari likes to run track and play with his dog. He is also in a club that many don't know about . . . the Secret Kindness Society! Young readers will enjoy following Ari's adventures in these early chapter books.

- The Secret Kindness Society is a school club that works to spread joy and help people in their community
- Back matter contains three Think About It questions as well as a bio of a real-life kid whose good deeds tie to book content
- Series is written by Christopher Stewart, an award-winning school librarian who works to end poverty and injustice throughout the world

Christopher Stewart is an award-winning school librarian on the faculty at St. John's University, Library Science Program. He lives in Washington, DC, and London, UK, with his wife and partner and their three awesome children.

Lala Stellune is an illustrator based in Indonesia. She graduated from Institut Teknologi Bandung with a degree in Visual Art. She loves to incorporate cultural anthropology into her work.

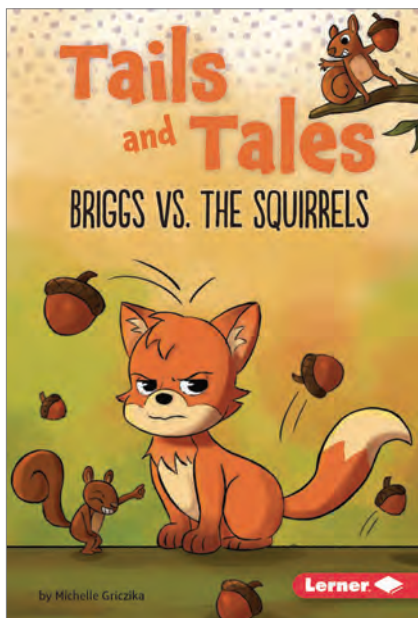
Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$8.99

Pages: 40 • Trim: 5 x 7½ • Ages: 6-9

August 1, 2024

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



Tails and Tales (Phonics Fun — Chapter Books)

Draw in striving readers with fun stories that feature furry friends and other animals. Each title in this series is carefully crafted to engage readers, enhance phonics, and boost reading proficiency and understanding.

- Adorable animal stories that offer extra support for different phonics skills that align with the Science of Reading, including long vowels, vowel team syllables, vowel-r syllables, prefixes, roots, suffixes and more
- Black-and-white illustrations make chapters visually interesting

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$12.99

Pages: 64 • Trim: 5¼ x 9 • Ages: 8-11

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER

tree. On her way there, she noticed a red fox sticking its head into the hollow log near the oak tree. She paused to watch from above.

The fox started scratching and digging inside the log. *He's going after the yellow jackets' nest!* thought Amber-Lee. Bits of the yellow jackets' papery nest flew everywhere. Yellow jackets buzzed angrily and must have stung the fox, who whimpered and ran away.

With mixed emotions, Amber-Lee shuddered. Even though the yellow jackets were the honeybees' enemies, Amber-Lee felt sorry for anyone whose home was destroyed.

Amber-Lee flew up to the entrance of Hillside Hive where her best friend Sunshine greeted her. "Hey, Amber-Lee. How's work today?" Sunshine asked.

"Great," said Amber-Lee. "I know I'm a worker bee, but foraging doesn't feel like work! I'm so happy and free out there. How was your day?"

"Action-packed!" said Sunshine. "The other guards and I stopped a giant bumblebee from sneaking in."





Camp Whispering Woods (Phonics Fun — Chapter Books)

Welcome to Camp Whispering Woods! Crafted for readers in need of extra literacy support, these thrilling narratives captivate striving readers while strengthening phonics and reading skills.

- Each title teaches a different phonics skill that aligns with the Science of Reading, including long vowels, vowel team syllables, compound words, and more
- Stories feature diverse protagonists and cast, while black-and-white illustrations engage readers
- Books end with a phonics activity to solidify new reading skills

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$12.99

Pages: 64 • Trim: 5¾ x 9 • Ages: 8-11

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER

Mystery Masters (Phonics Fun — Chapter Books)

Enhance phonics and reading skills while solving mysteries with this upper-level decodable series. Tailored for students in grades 3-5 needing extra support, these engaging stories reinforce core skills, making learning engaging and effective.

- Intriguing mysteries offer core phonics practice for readers needing additional support
- Stories feature diverse protagonists and cast, while black-and-white illustrations engage readers
- Each book focuses on a different set of phonics skills that align to the Science of Reading, including closed syllables, r-controlled vowels, vowel teams, multisyllabic words, and more
- Black-and-white art adds visual interest to each chapter

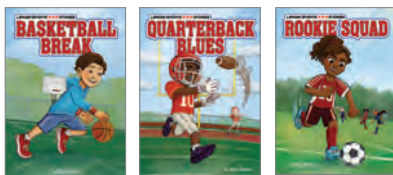
Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$12.99

Pages: 64 • Trim: 5¾ x 9 • Ages: 8-11

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



Lerner Sports Stories

Max Marino, illus. Amanda Erb

Get in the game with Lerner Sports Stories. Each book features a different main character, sport, and storyline. Realistic and kid-focused, these action-packed chapter books are sure to get young sports fans reading!

- Each book features a new, diverse cast of characters and a new storyline
- Accessible text and grayscale illustrations help bring stories to life
- Back matter includes a biography of a real-life athlete

Max Marino is an author of nonfiction and fiction books for children with a special interest in sports writing. He is based in Virginia.

Amanda Erb is an Illustrator originally from Maryland but currently living in Boston, Massachusetts. She has created work for books, magazines, toys, and products. Her art is heavily inspired by animation.

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 72 • Trim: 5 x 7½ • Ages: 8-11

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



Hoops Academy

J. B. Duncan

Hoops Academy is a basketball high school known for turning out pro players. But mysteries also lurk on its campus. Each athlete must face the unknown and rise above new obstacles in this page-turning series.

- Action-packed stories written at a lower reading level to captivate struggling readers
- Diverse cast of teen characters make series appealing to middle-grade and YA readers
- Titles avoid profanity and mature situations

J. B. Duncan is an editor, author, and comic creator. He lives in Massachusetts with his family.

Darby Creek™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 104 • Trim: 5¼ x 7½ • Ages: 11-18

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



Faiza Is a Fighter

Debasmitta Dasgupta

Faiza wants to win the biggest boxing tournament in town. When a landslide hits her village, will she be able to achieve her dream without the presence of her biggest supporter?

- Showcases life in northern India
- Boxing/sports interest
- Includes themes of overcoming bullying and positive self-talk

Debasmitta Dasgupta is an internationally-published graphic novelist and *Kirkus Best Prize*-nominated illustrator. As an art-for-change advocate, she's worked with global nonprofits and has illustrated picture books, comics, and poems.

Soaring Kite Books

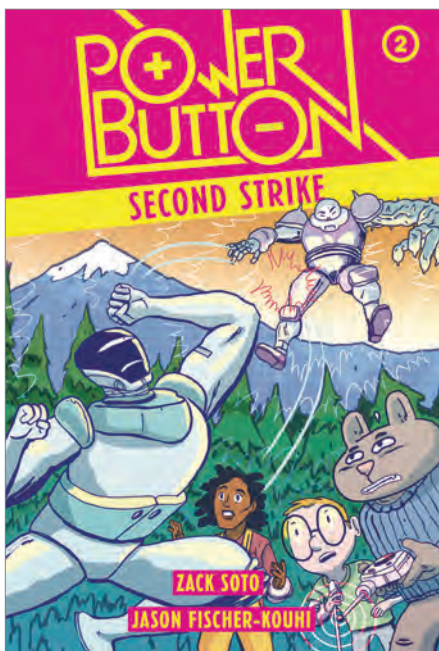
Price: PB: \$12.99

Pages: 72 • Trim: 8 x 11 • Ages: 9-14

May 6, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: SOARING KITE BOOKS C/O LERNER





Also available



Power Button: Second Strike Book 2

Zack Soto

Kaz and Truly barely survived one alien invasion. When the Horde strikes again, it kidnaps Kaz's parents and sidelines space-knight Cyclo. To rescue the grown-ups, the cousins will need luck! Or Kaz's UFO-obsessed uncle, Lucky....

- Kid-friendly cosmic superhero action for readers starting to explore *Star Wars* and *Guardians of the Galaxy*
- Multiple forms of diversity among lead characters
- Distinctive, quirky limited-palette artwork
- A readalike for *Amulet*, *Cleopatra in Space*, and other middle-grade sci-fi hits

Zack Soto is a cartoonist and comic book editor living in Portland, Oregon. He likes toys, movies, houseplants and making things in his workshop—but he might like comics most of all. You can find him at www.zack-soto.com.

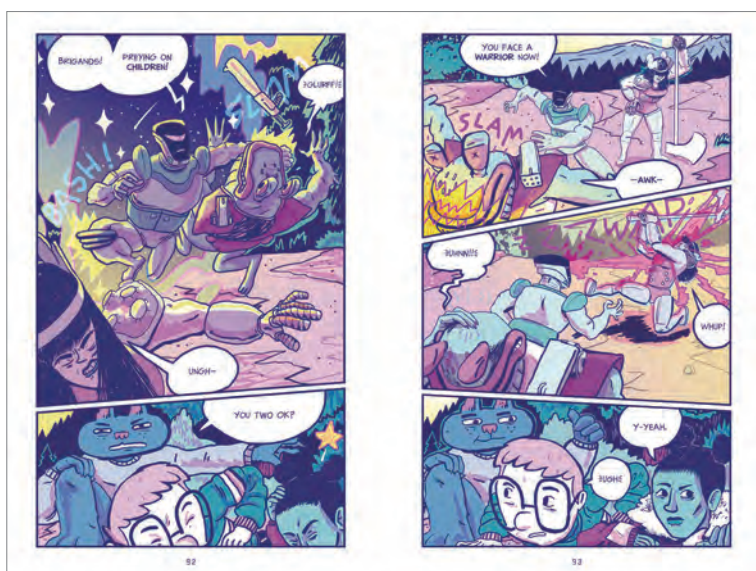
Graphic Universe™

Price: PB: \$17.99

Pages: 208 • Trim: 6 x 9 • Ages: 9-14

November 5, 2024

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER
DRAMATIC RIGHTS: FOREWORD LITERARY D/B/A FUSE LITERARY





Just Another Story

A Graphic Migration Account

Ernesto Saade

When Carlos was nineteen, his mother decided to leave her life in El Salvador. Refusing to let her go without him, Carlos joined her journey north. Together they experienced the risks countless people face as they migrate.

- Based on a true story, this stirring and thoughtful work in graphic form, goes beyond headlines or statistics to provide a powerful individual account of migration

Ernesto Saade is an El Salvador-born architect turned cartoonist. After years spent in construction, he left to pursue his Master's Degree in Illustration and Comics from the Barcelona School of Design. Now he devotes 100% of his time to drawing comics.

Graphic Universe™

Price: PB: \$17.99

Pages: 216 • Trim: 7 x 9 • Ages: 14-18

April 2, 2024

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER

DRAMATIC RIGHTS: NICOLAS GRIVEL AGENCY

FRENCH RIGHTS SOLD TO STENKIS GROUPE

★ *"With delicacy and grace, Salvadoran cartoonist Saade crafts a resonant and distinctive graphic novel debut. . . Each panel is a testament to individual resilience, culminating in an expansive story of human beings triumphing against unspeakable odds."*

— starred, **Publishers Weekly**



Hotelitor

Luxury-Class Defense and Hospitality Unit

Josh Hicks

Luxury ship Hotelitor is equipped with a hyperspace engine and single, double, and adjoining rooms. When an alien attack strands the craft in deep space, 18-year-old intern Anna Greene must save its guests from chaos.

- Hilarious writing and colorful, inventive artwork
- For fans of graphic novels such as *Cosmoknights* by Hannah Templer and *On a Sunbeam* by Tillie Walden

Josh Hicks is a cartoonist from Wales, UK. He has been creating comics since 2015, working with anthologies and independent publishers in the UK and self-publishing his own minicomics. His most recent book is *The Glorious Wrestling Alliance*.

Graphic Universe™

Price: PB: \$16.99

Pages: 144 • Trim: 6 x 9 • Ages: 14-18

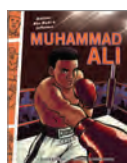
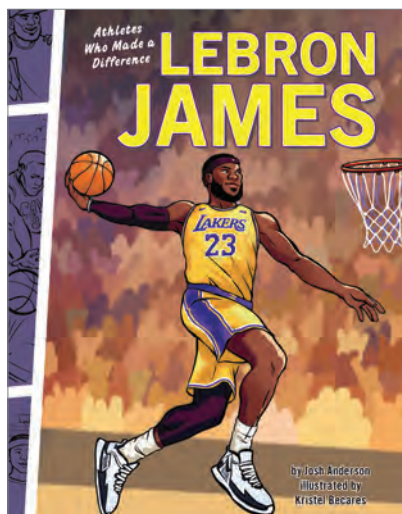
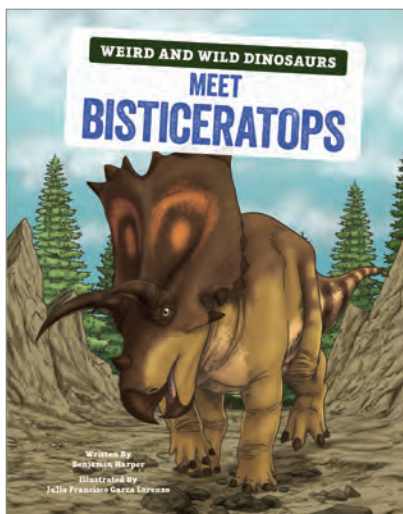
April 7, 2024

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER

DRAMATIC RIGHTS: JOSH HICKS

"A clever, high-octane graphic novel satire of the bourgeois and proletariat."

— **Publishers Weekly**



Weird and Wild Dinosaurs

Benjamin Harper
illus. *Julio Francisco Garza Lorenzo*

This series of high-interest graphic novels introduces young readers to lesser-known but weird and cool dinosaurs. Get up close and personal with the teeth, claws, and spikes that make them so special.

- Inviting graphic approach to dinosaurs and archaeology
- Features lesser known but fascinating dinos
- Reluctant-reader friendly

Benjamin Harper has written or contributed to more than 40 books, including a number of leveled readers and graphic novels. Currently, he resides in Los Angeles, California, where he raises monarch butterflies and lives with a cat, a dog, and a hippie.

Julio Francisco Garza Lorenzo is a professional illustrator, designer and photographer based in Mexico City. He has worked on a wide range of projects with advertising agencies, animation studios, and publishers.

Graphic Universe™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 24 • Trim: 6¼ x 9 • Ages: 5-9

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER

Athletes Who Made a Difference

Josh Anderson
illus. *Kristel Becares, Casey Ella Fredrick*

This graphic nonfiction series presents true sports stories of grit, leadership, and resistance. Follow legendary athletes from their early years to pro careers, and see how they pushed to change the world around them.

- Accessible approach that unpacks different historical moments
- Visuals capture the intensity of athletic competition

Josh Anderson is the author of several books, including *Heat on the Street*. He lives and works in Burbank, California, with his wife, Corey, and their two big guys, Leo and Dane.

Kristel Becares is a Filipino artist and illustrator focusing on comics/graphic novels and character design. She is based in Chicago.

Casey Ella Fredrick is an illustrator based in Wisconsin. She attended Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design where she studied Illustration.

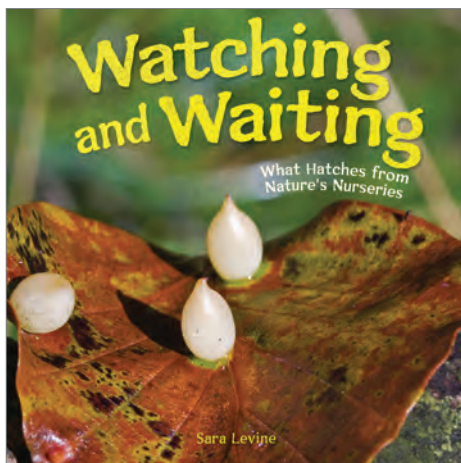
Graphic Universe™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6¼ x 9 • Ages: 8-12

August 1, 2024

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



Watching and Waiting

What Hatches from Nature's Nurseries

Sara Levine

What should you do if you find eggs or egg cases when you're exploring the outdoors? You could wait and watch and even come back to check on them to see what emerges.

- Stands out from other books about eggs as it features examples beyond bird and frog eggs
- An excellent companion to the books *Guess What Is Growing Inside This Egg* by Mia Posada and *An Egg is Quiet* by Dianna Hutts Aston, illustrated by Sylvia Long

Sara Levine is a veterinarian, educator, and award-winning author of science books for kids. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with her daughter, two dogs, some spider plants, a philodendron, and an angel leaf begonia.

Millbrook Press™

Price: HC: \$30.65

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 9¼ • Ages: 4-9

April 1, 2025

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER

DRAMATIC RIGHTS: ERIN MURPHY LITERARY AGENCY



The Black Mambas

The World's First All-Woman Anti-Poaching Unit

Kelly Crull

Go on patrol with the Black Mambas, South Africa's first women-led anti-poaching unit. Meet the rangers and discover all they do to protect the wildlife at the Balule Nature Reserve.

- The Black Mambas is a unique anti-poaching unit as the members are almost all women and do not carry guns
- Features charismatic animals including rhinos, giraffes, and pangolins
- Author and photographer Kelly Crull traveled to South Africa to meet and photograph the Black Mambas

Kelly Crull is an author, illustrator, and photographer. His writing career began in the second grade when his teacher gave him a blank picture book and told him to tell a story. He filled an entire bookshelf at the library at his school in Iowa. His joke book even had a waitlist!

Millbrook Press™

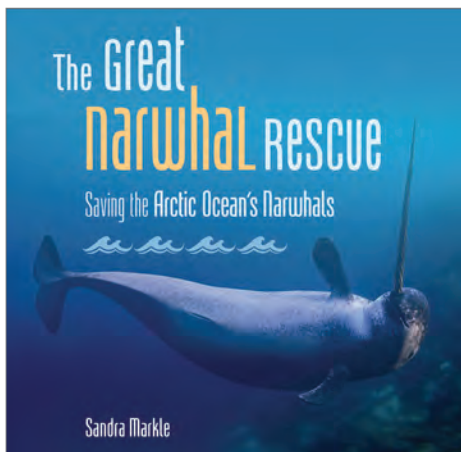
Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 40 • Trim: 10% x 8% • Ages: 6-10

April 1, 2025

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER

DRAMATIC RIGHTS: EAST WEST LITERARY AGENCY



The Great Narwhal Rescue

Saving the Arctic Ocean's Narwhals

Sandra Markle

Narwhals have lived in the icy Arctic Ocean for centuries. But as temperatures rise, ice disappears, and humans venture into the Arctic, these animals are in danger. Discover how scientists are working to protect narwhals.

- Features a unique and mysterious species
- Up-to-date conservation information from scientists working to protect narwhals in the Arctic Ocean
- Provides information about how climate change has opened the Arctic Ocean to cargo shipping and oil drilling and how these activities are impacting wildlife there

Sandra Markle is the author of numerous award-winning science books for children, a nationally known science education consultant, and a former elementary school science teacher. She lives in Lakewood Ranch, Florida, with her husband.

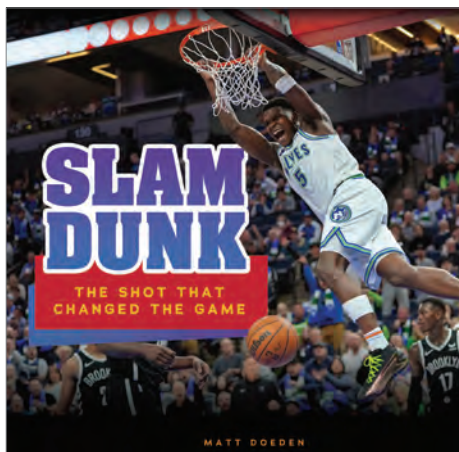
Millbrook Press™

Price: HC: \$33.32

Pages: TBD • Trim: 9¾ x 9¾ • Ages: 9-12

April 1, 2025

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER
DRAMATIC RIGHTS: EDEN STREET LLC



Slam Dunk

The Shot That Changed the Game

Matt Doeden

The slam dunk is one of the most exciting shots in basketball—but it didn't start out that way. Read about the history of the famous shot, the most memorable plays, and the top dunkers.

- Features current and recognizable stars and up-to-date information as well as historical context
- High-interest topic will attract sports fans and reluctant readers alike

Matt Doeden began his career as a sports writer. Since then, he's spent more than a decade writing and editing children's nonfiction. Matt lives in Minnesota with his family.

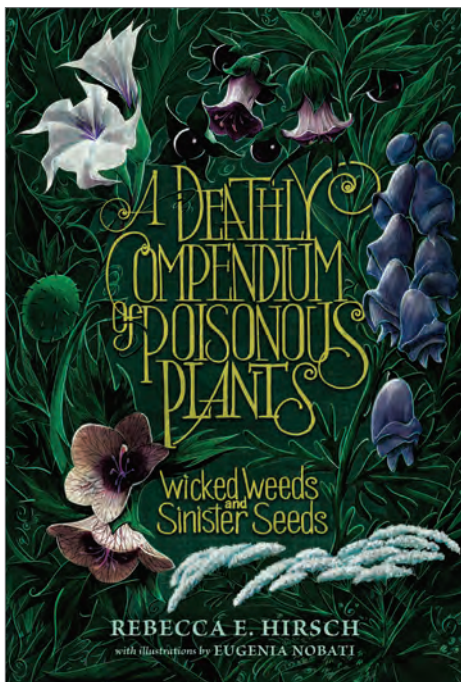
Millbrook Press™

Price: HC: \$34.65

Pages: TBD • Trim: 9 x 9 • Ages: 10-14

March 4, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



A Deathly Compendium of Poisonous Plants

Wicked Weeds and Sinister Seeds

Rebecca E. Hirsch

A must for fans of science and history—and also armchair detectives—this entertaining and informative illustrated compendium delves into nature's deadliest plants and their fascinating histories as implements of medicine, warfare, and foul play.

- Factual historical incidents written in gothic mystery/horror style make for a fun and engrossing read
- Delves into nature's deadliest plants and their use throughout history as implements of medicine, warfare, and foul play

Rebecca E. Hirsch, PhD, is the author of numerous books about science, nature, and geography for children. She lives with her husband and three children in State College, Pennsylvania. You can visit her online at rebeccahirsch.com.

★ "The striking page design evokes a strong sense of the macabre and is reminiscent of dark academia . . . An engaging, visually appealing guide for science buffs, true-crime enthusiasts, and herbalists alike."

— starred, *Kirkus Reviews*

Zest Books™

Price: PB: \$18.99

Pages: 200 • Trim: 5½ x 8¼ • Ages: 12-18

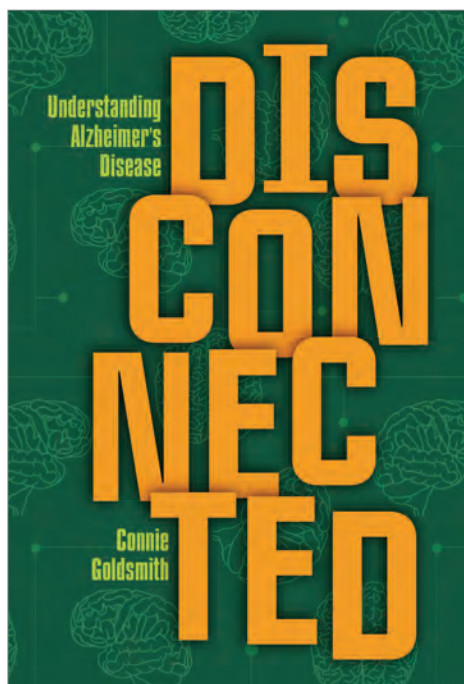
October 22, 2024

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DRAMATIC RIGHTS: RED FOX LITERARY LLC

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Disconnected

Understanding Alzheimer's Disease

Connie Goldsmith

Alzheimer's disease is a dementia that affects the memory, thinking, and behavior of millions of people. Understand more about what Alzheimer's is through a look at its stages, current clinical research, caregiver accounts, and more.

- Researched and written by Connie Goldsmith, registered nurse and author of several young adult nonfiction titles
- Includes personal stories from Alzheimer's caregivers
- Sidebars highlighting Alzheimer's global awareness, ongoing research, caregiving tips, and more

Connie Goldsmith writes books about history, health, and science for older children. A retired RN with a master's degree in health, Ms. Goldsmith lives near Sacramento, California.

Twenty-First Century Books™

Price: HC: \$37.32

Pages: 128 • Trim: 6 x 9 • Ages: 11-18

February 4, 2025

BRITISH, TRANSLATION, AUDIO RIGHTS: LERNER
DRAMATIC RIGHTS: AUTHOR



Design Thinking

A Guide to Innovation

Fred Estes

Design Thinking provides a simple, clear approach to the design thinking process. The easy-to-follow guide explains everything essential to your design thinking projects focused on solving human-centered, social issues to effect change and to create a more equitable world.

- Clear introduction to design thinking approach and methodology
- Written by an expert and educator in the field

Fred Estes is a nonfiction author and science teacher based in San Francisco, California.

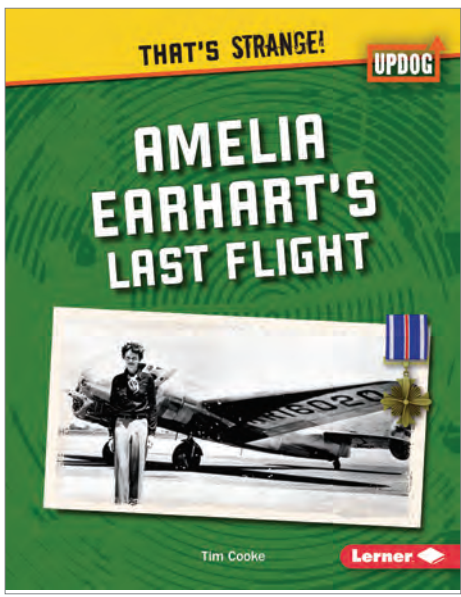
Twenty-First Century Books™

Price: HC: \$38.65

Pages: TBD • Trim: 6 x 9 • Ages: 12-18

March 4, 2025

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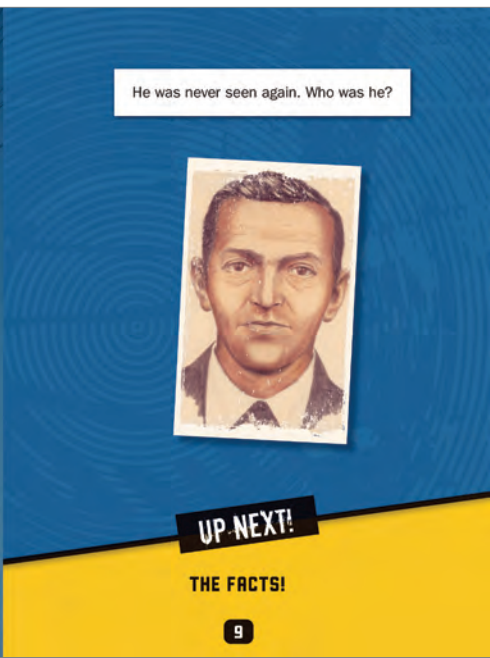
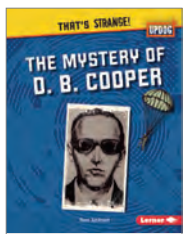
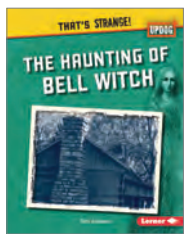


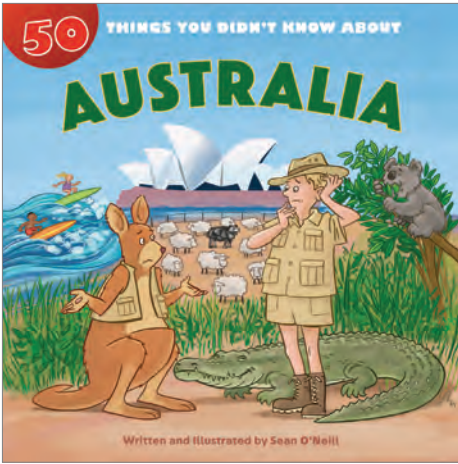
That's Strange! (UpDog Books™)

There are so many unexplained mysteries to explore! From D.B. Cooper's sudden disappearance from a flying plane to strange ghostly events at the Stanley Hotel, readers will learn educational, fascinating facts in this high-interest series.

- Super high-interest content to engage reluctant readers
- Exciting transitions and captivating photographs will keep readers connected to the text

Lerner Publications™
 Price: PB: \$10.99
 Pages: 32 • Trim: 6¼ x 9 • Ages: 8-11
 January 1, 2025
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50 Things You Didn't Know About

This fun series presents entertaining facts on high-interest topics in easy-to-digest summaries. Each book is filled with unexpected and amusing insights that go beyond the basics to engage readers.

- 50 fun facts in each book give readers insight to interesting history and intriguing places
- Colorful and comedic illustrations

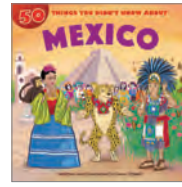
Red Chair Press

Price: \$8.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 8 x 8 • Ages: 7-11

August 1, 2024

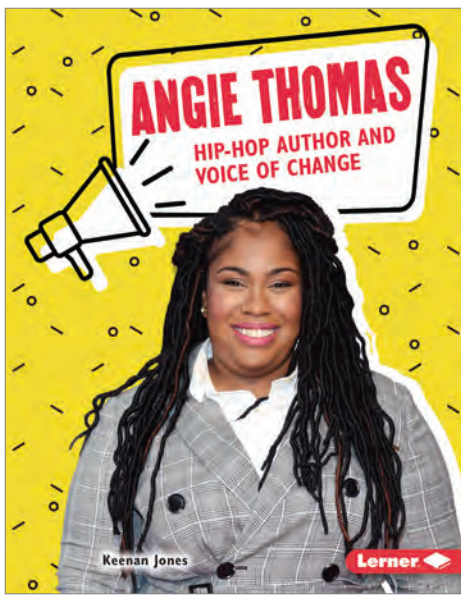
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CHAPTER 1
AN ISLAND CONTINENT

An island unto itself, Australia is the only country on Earth that covers an entire continent (Oceania is a grouping but not itself a continent). Although it is the second-least populated continent (after Antarctica), the rich biodiversity and variety of ecosystems makes Australia one of the most unique natural environments on the planet. From arid deserts to sandy beaches, snow-capped mountains to bustling cities, Australia really is a place like no other.

- 1 Australia isn't just a country. It's also a continent *and* an island. In fact, it's the world's smallest continent—and the world's largest island.
- 2 The country's name comes from the Latin term *Terra Australis Incognita*, which means "unknown land in the south." European explorers used this term to identify any lands unknown to Europeans in the southern oceans, so when they landed on Australia, the name stuck.



Gateway Biographies

Discover the human side of newsworthy, historical, and pop culture figures. Each biography is peppered with quotations and childhood stories, accounts of successes and failures, and descriptions of inspirational experiences that influenced the person's achievements.

- Highly readable biographies about contemporary and historical public figures
- Includes quotes and stories that provide an inside look at each subject's life

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$11.99

Pages: 48 • Trim: 6¾ x 9 • Ages: 9-14

January 1, 2025

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Live in the present tense.

Thomas presents *The Hate U Give* at the Massachusetts Conference for Women in Boston, Massachusetts, in 2019.

Thomas was determined that this book would make it into the world. She had been sending her other work to literary agents. A literary agent can help an author land a book deal by sending the work to publishers. By 2015, literary agents had already rejected her other children's book manuscript sixty times.

Thomas's hard work and perseverance finally paid off when she contacted We Need Diverse Books, a nonprofit created to promote diversity in children's books. Thomas submitted her work to one of their inaugural contests and won a cash prize. With the money from the award, she

21

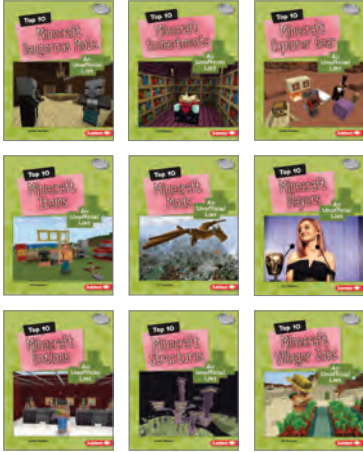
was able to get a new laptop, but more important, a panel of judges told her that her novel was good. The title of her book *The Hate U Give* comes from Tupac Shakur, whose group Thug Life had an album that shared the group's name. The Thug part of the name stood for "the hate u give."

On February 28, 2017, Balzer + Bray, part of publisher HarperCollins, finally published *The Hate U Give*. The book achieved immediate success, debuting at number one on the *New York Times* bestseller list. It also won the ALA's William C. Morris YA Debut Award, a Boston Globe-Horn Book Award, the UK Waterstones Children's Book Prize, and the German Youth Literature Award.

TUPAC'S "DEAR MAMA"

In 1995 Tupac Shakur released his hit song "Dear Mama," dedicated to his mother, Afeni Shakur. She had been a member of the Black Panther Party. Tupac was raised by his mother, and they endured some tough times when he was a child. Despite their hardships, he praised his mother as being a Black queen who did all she could to provide for them. The song went on to achieve triple platinum, one of the highest honors for a song. Many rap critics call it one of the top ten songs of all time.

21



Searchlight Books™ — Minecraft Top Tens

Explore the world of Minecraft through engaging top ten lists! Readers will count down the most exciting Minecraft players, mods, enchantments, and more!

- Engaging exploration of all things Minecraft!
- Vibrant full-color photos
- Sidebars provide expert tips on gameplay

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6¼ x 9 • Ages: 8-11

January 1, 2025

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Predator vs. Prey

In a battle of survival, who would win? A killer whale or a penguin? A cheetah or a gazelle? Readers will learn about the skills and techniques animals use both to hunt and to protect themselves in the wild.

- Head-to-head feature includes easy-to-read diagrams of the title animals
- Fun factual sidebars offer amazing tidbits readers can share with friends

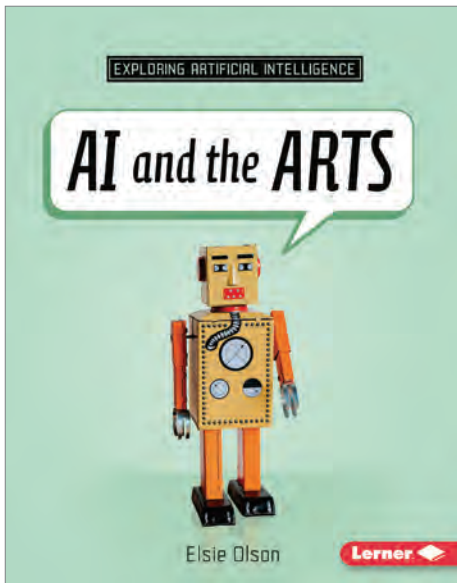
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Price: PB: \$10.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6¼ x 9 • Ages: 8-11

January 1, 2025

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Exploring Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence (AI) is quickly becoming a major part of society, impacting our daily lives. This introductory series explores the basics of AI, the challenges and safety concerns it poses, its capabilities for the future, and more.

- Artificial intelligence is an incredible tool capable of impressive feats, but it also brings many safety concerns
- Readers will examine some of them and learn to think critically about AI in this engaging exploration

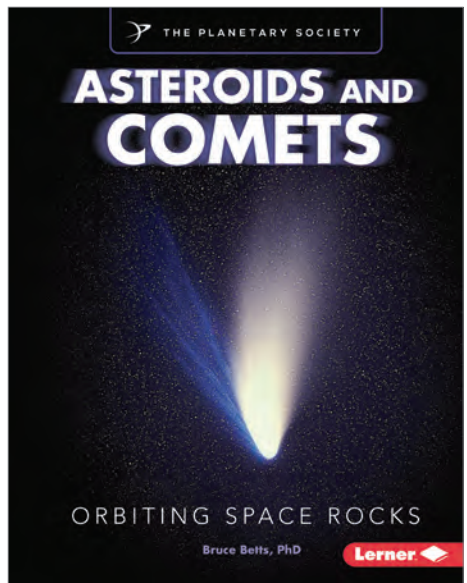
Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$10.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6¼ x 9 • Ages: 8-12

January 1, 2025

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Exploring Our Solar System with The Planetary Society®

Which planets have moons? What is the order of the planets from the Sun? There is much to explore about space. With exciting photos, diagrams, and text, readers will love learning about our Solar System.

- Updated information on high-interest STEM topics
- Introductory Note from Bill Nye, CEO of The Planetary Society
- Sidebars provide quick and interesting facts to engage readers

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$10.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6¼ x 9 • Ages: 7-10

January 1, 2025

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Robot Sports (Lerner™ Sports)

Take a front-row seat to watch robots and drones competing in exciting sports—from racing and obstacle courses to soccer and sumo matches. Discover the gear, skills, and collaboration needed to bring these new sports to packed arenas around the world.

- High-interest topics that will appeal to sports and tech fans alike
- Engaging sidebars introduce fun facts and STEM content

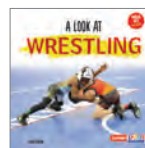
Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6¾ x 9 • Ages: 7-11

January 1, 2025

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Martial Arts for Kids (Lerner Sports Rookie)

From judo to wrestling and more, readers will enjoy learning about different martial arts forms, what to expect in lessons, and how to compete. Each form has unique techniques, rules, and traditions that make it distinct.

- High-interest topic
- Sidebars offer martial arts tips and fun facts
- Features an Up-Close page on an interesting aspect of the sport

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$8.99

Pages: 24 • Trim: 7¾ x 8 • Ages: 5-8

January 1, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LERNER



Sports VIPs (Lerner™ Sports)

Explore the lives of the world's best and hottest sports superstars. From childhood to the present, find out how they rule their sports, prepare for big events, and help their communities.

- Engaging cradle-to-present biographies of the world's most famous athletes
- Perfect for sports fans and reluctant readers

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6¼ x 9 • Ages: 7-11

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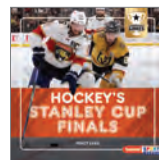
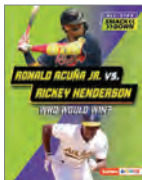
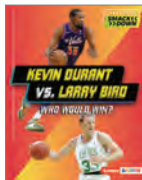
Ceedee Lamb (right) celebrates a touchdown with Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott (left) in a game against the Detroit Lions.

In only his fourth season in the NFL, Lamb was making moves. Coaches, players, and reporters were amazed at how he caught the football. He could catch with one hand. He could even catch with his feet clinging to the back of the end zone.

Prescott said that Lamb would break many football records. "He's continuing to get better, wants to get better, and is hungry for the ball," Prescott said. "He's going to continue to stack these records each and every year. This is only the beginning."



Lamb races down the field in a game against the Green Bay Packers.



All-Star Smackdown (Lerner™ Sports)

Read about the world's greatest athletes and compare their careers in a fun and exciting head-to-head format. Explore their stats and greatest moments, and then choose a winner. Will your favorite come out on top?

- Two familiar sports superstars are featured in a head-to-head format
- Action-packed text and photos
- Perfect for sports fans

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 6¼ x 9 • Ages: 7-11

January 1, 2025

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Championship Games (Lerner Sports Rookie)

Readers dive into the biggest events in sports. From the Summer Olympics to the Super Bowl, readers will learn about greatest moments, best players, and more in the world's major sporting events.

- Tight focus on the most popular sporting events in the world
- Highlights the most memorable games, moments, and players
- Dynamic, action-packed photos and exciting text

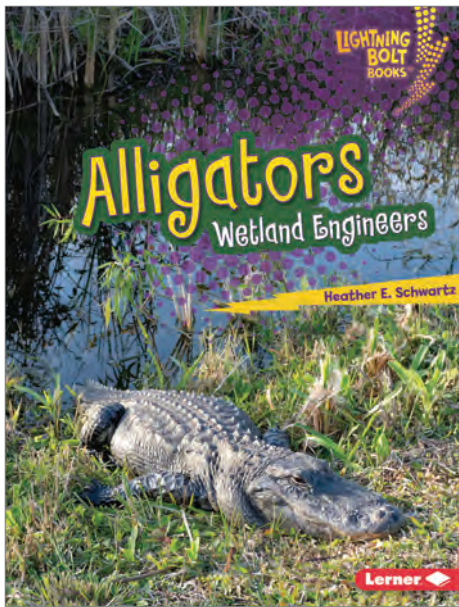
Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$8.99

Pages: 24 • Trim: 7¼ x 8 • Ages: 5-8

January 1, 2025

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Lightning Bolt Books® — Ecosystem Engineers

Introduce readers to corals, sea otters, and other ecosystem engineers in this appealing series.

- A high-interest STEM series on animals with behaviors that benefit their ecosystems
- Engaging text and photos and a back-matter activity encourages further reader engagement

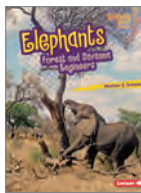
Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$9.99

Pages: 24 • Trim: 7½ x 10¼ • Ages: 6-9

January 1, 2025

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Lives of Sea Otters

Adult female sea otters give birth to pups in the water. The mothers hold their pups to nurse, cuddle, and groom them.



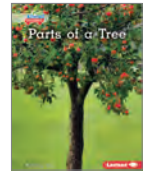
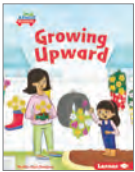
16

A sea otter pup



Pups stay with their mothers for up to a year. During that time, the mothers teach the pups to swim, dive, and hunt.

17



In the Garden (Pull Ahead Readers — Fiction)

Cultivate successful readers with this charming series that celebrates and promotes taking care of Earth. Each fictional story features engaging text and colorful illustrations to help beginning readers thrive.

- Narrative stories pair with nonfiction titles to cover key topics
- Simple text patterns use high-frequency sight words
- Engaging stories to make learning accessible to all

Lerner Publications™

Price: PB: \$8.99

Pages: 16 • Trim: 5¼ x 8 • Ages: 4-7

January 1, 2025

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In the Garden (Pull Ahead Readers — Nonfiction)

Introduce young kids to earthworms, composting, and more in this earth-friendly series. Each book is filled with compelling photographs and simple nonfiction text to support the growth of beginning readers.

- Each nonfiction title is paired with a fiction title of the same topic
- Engaging text for children just learning to read
- Strong photo-text matches help readers predict unfamiliar words

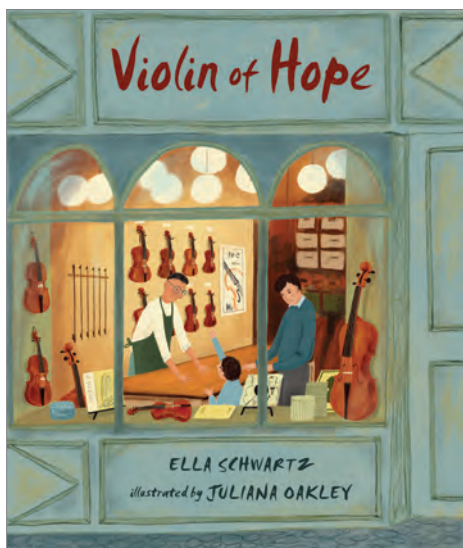
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Price: PB: \$8.99

Pages: 16 • Trim: 5¼ x 8 • Ages: 4-7

January 1, 2025

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"Tender, moving, and hopeful."

—Kirkus Reviews

Violin of Hope

Ella Schwartz, illus. Juliana Oakley

A violin is taken from a Jewish family by the Nazis. After years in a cellar, the violin finds its way back into a musician's hands, filling concert halls with the music of hope once again.

- An uplifting story about the power of music, and the strength of the human spirit
- Tells the story of the Holocaust through the journey of one violin
- Back matter about the true story of a luthier who restores violins rescued from the Holocaust

Ella Schwartz is the award-winning author of several books for children. She is also the granddaughter of Holocaust survivors and works to promote Holocaust awareness and education. She has a bachelor's and master's degree from Columbia University. Ella lives on Long Island, New York with her husband and three sons. Visit Ella on her website, www.ellasbooks.com.

Juliana Oakley is an illustrator based in Bahrain who loves to work with color. She draws inspiration from her family, from travels, from nature, and childhood memories. Her illustrations often start from pencil sketches and are then finished digitally.

Kar-Ben Publishing®

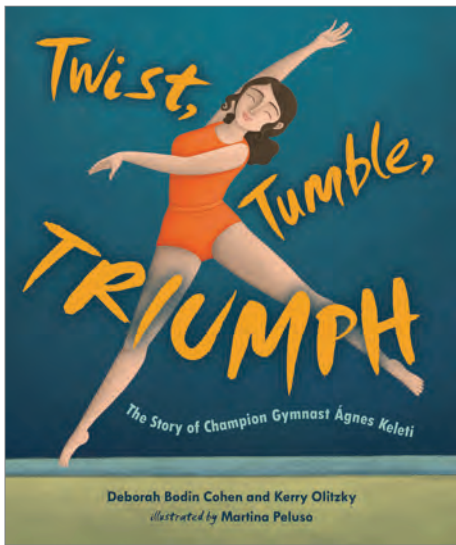
Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 6-11

November 5, 2024

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Twist, Tumble, Triumph

The Story of Champion Gymnast Ágnes Keleti

Deborah Bodin Cohen; Kerry Olitzky,
illus. Martina Peluso

Ágnes Keleti can forget about the war when she is doing gymnastics—until Jewish athletes are barred from the gym. Never giving up on her dream, her moment of triumph comes at the 1952 Olympics.

- The true story of Hungarian-Jewish Champion Gymnast Ágnes Keleti
- The story of a resilient and determined young woman who survives the Holocaust
- An inspiring story of a female athlete who won 10 Olympic medals

Rabbi Deborah Bodin Cohen is the author of many award-winning children's books including *Papa Jethro*, and *Nachshon Who Was Afraid to Swim*. She lives in Maryland with her husband and three children.

Martina Peluso studied at the Art Institute of Naples. Her artwork has been exhibited throughout the world. Her previous books include *Joseph and the Sabbath Fish* and *Og's Ark*. She lives in Naples, Italy, with her cats Peppe and Ernesto.

Kar-Ben Publishing®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 5-9

February 4, 2025

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Perfect Match

Lori Dubbin, illus. Amanda Quartey

Two women, one in the US and one in the UK, face discrimination in the tennis world. Friends and teammates, they knew that in order to win, they would have to draw on their strengths—together. And they did.

- Based on the true story of the friendship between tennis champions Althea Gibson and Angela Buxton
- Shows the parallel experiences of discrimination and prejudice against Black and Jewish tennis players
- An inspiring story of women athletes

Lori Dubbin is a writer and a former early childhood educator. She enjoys researching and writing about unsung heroes who have contributed to our world in remarkable ways. When Lori isn't researching or writing, she loves solving crossword puzzles, taking walks, and reading with her grandson. She and her husband have three grown sons and live in Miami, Florida.

Amanda Quartey was born and raised in London. At age 14, she moved to Ghana, where she studied art, returning to the UK to study graphic design. Amanda has built a professional illustration portfolio and loves every bit of her illustration career!

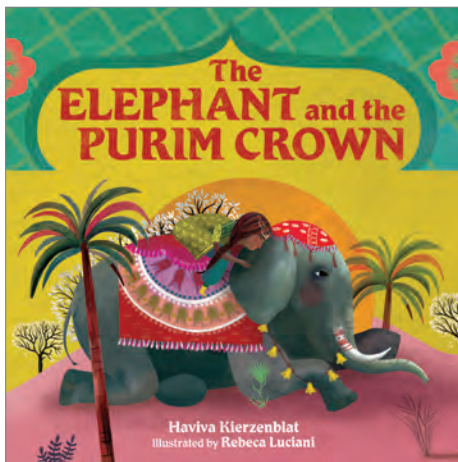
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Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 6-11

September 10, 2024

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The Elephant and the Purim Crown

Haviva Kierzenblat, *illus. Rebeca Luciani*

Rachel feels like Queen Esther when she rides an elephant, until she notices the animal's bruised and cracked feet. She decides to use her prize Purim crown to buy the old elephant so that it may rest.

- Shows a tender friendship between a girl and an elephant
- A Purim story set in Burma inspired by the author's mother's memories
- Demonstrates the Jewish value of kindness to animals

Haviva Kierzenblat spent many moons with her elephant loving grandfather, steeped in stories of Sephardic life in Rangoon, Burma. Haviva loves antique French paper dolls, botanical gardens, cooking curries, and being an awesome auntie. She lives in San Marino, California.

Rebeca Luciana is an Argentinian illustrator, now living in Spain. Her books have won the Premi Crítica Serra d'Or prize, the Açorianos prize for Best Book of the Year, and the Premi Junceda.

Kar-Ben Publishing®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¾ x 9¾ • Ages: 4-9

January 7, 2025

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Who Brought the Hamantaschen?

Marcia S. Gresko, *illus. Steve Mack*

Lily brings red apples to the Purim party. Leo, dressed as a yellow hamantaschen, brings yellow bananas, and Eli, dressed as King Ahasuerus, brings purple plums. But who brought the hamantaschen to the Purim party? Grandma and Grandpa did!

- A board book celebrating Purim
- Introduces colors for the youngest readers

Marcia Gresko has written more than a dozen books for children and young adults. For eighteen years she worked as an educational toy developer. She has also taught students in grade levels from preschool to high school. She lives in Southern California and Virginia.

Steve Mack is a children's book and greeting card illustrator. He lives in Lumsden, Saskatchewan, Canada, with his wife and two children.

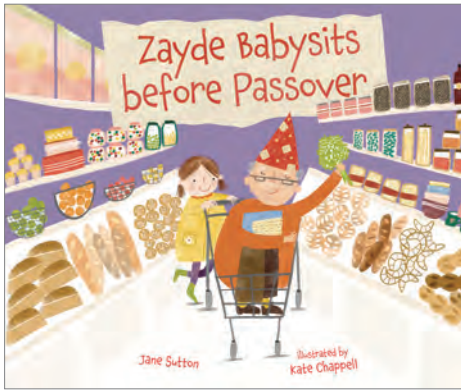
Kar-Ben Publishing®

Price: BB: \$9.99

Pages: 12 • Trim: 6½ x 6½ • Ages: 1-4

January 7, 2025

ALL RIGHTS: LENER



Zayde Babysits before Passover

Jane Sutton, illus. Kate Chappell

Zayde is babysitting Ruthie before Passover, but who exactly is babysitting whom? After the seder, Ruthie says "I had fun today, Zayde! Will you babysit for me again?" "Of course!" he says. "I can't wait!"

- A sweet story celebrating the relationship between a little girl and her grandfather
- Shows a family preparing for Passover from a child's perspective

Jane Sutton began writing stories and poems at a young age. A writing tutor and community education writing teacher, Jane lives in the Boston area.

Kate Chappell is an illustrator from North East Lincolnshire, UK. She graduated from Falmouth University with a degree in Illustration, and has since worked with a variety of publishers internationally.

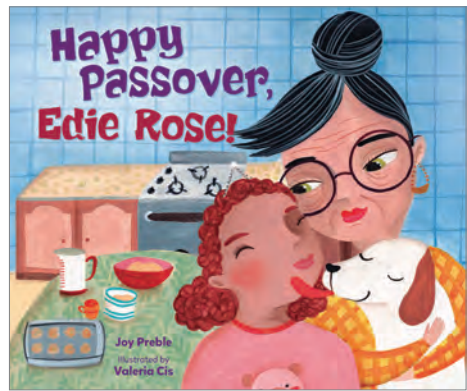
Kar-Ben Publishing®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 24 • Trim: 10% x 8% • Ages: 4-9

January 7, 2025

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Happy Passover, Edie Rose!

Joy Preble, illus. Valeria Cis

When Edie Rose falls and breaks her arm, Mia wonders how she can save Passover. "Why is this night different from all other nights?" The answer is that this year all the neighbors helped their friend in need.

- Shows the power of community and neighbors working together
- A contemporary take on the themes of the Passover story
- Celebrates an intergenerational friendship between an older woman and a child
- Passover is April 12-20, 2025

Joy Preble loves to write for children, teens, and even grown-ups. She also loves Jewish holidays, especially Passover, where, like Edie Rose, she hosts the best seders ever! *Happy Passover, Edie Rose!* marks her picture book debut. You can find more of Joy's books at joypreble.com.

Valeria Cis lives in Argentina with her family. She studied fine art at the University of Humanities and Arts in Rosario, Argentina. Her recent books include *A Heart Just Like My Mother's* and *Bubbe's Belated Bat Mitzvah*.

Kar-Ben Publishing®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 10% x 8% • Ages: 4-9

January 7, 2025

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The Secret Recipe

Ilan Stavans, illus. Taia Morley

"Una merenda azeremos," Abuela says to her grandson. "It means 'we will cook together' in our secret language." Can a language be secret? The next time the boy visits Abuela, he surprises her with a few words.

- Explains the history of the Ladino language spoken by Sephardic Jews
- Shows a loving relationship between a grandmother and grandson
- Shows how food and cooking are integral to culture, and includes a recipe for bourekas

Ilan Stavans is an internationally renowned, award-winning writer, translator, and teacher born in Mexico. His work, adapted to the screen, TV, radio, and theater, has been published in more than twenty languages.

Taia Morley is an author/illustrator whose work has appeared in a variety of children's books, magazines, and toys. Taia carries a sketchbook wherever she goes because there is always something interesting to draw. You can visit her online at www.taiamorley.com.

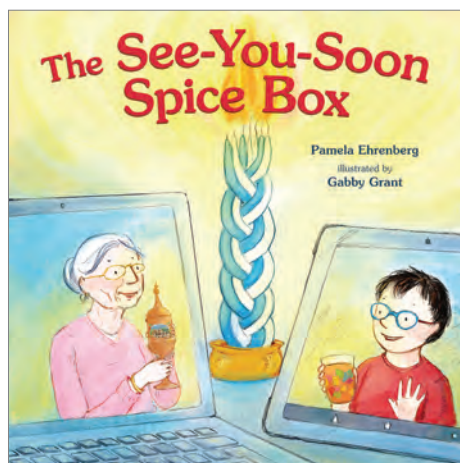
Kar-Ben Publishing®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 24 • Trim: 9¼ x 9¼ • Ages: 4-8

March 4, 2025

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The See-You-Soon Spice Box

Pamela Ehrenberg, illus. Gabby Grant

Great-Grandma Faye says that Havdalah is like saying to Shabbat, "See you soon!" When Silas video calls Great-Grandma Faye, they chant the Havdalah service together, until Great-Grandma Faye finally visits in person.

- A story about connecting with loved ones far away over video calls
- An intergenerational story about the relationship between a boy and his great-grandma
- Explains the meaning of Havdalah, the ceremony that ends the Jewish sabbath on Saturday night

Pamela Ehrenberg's previous picture books include *Queen of the Hanukkah Dosas* and *Planting Parsley*. Her middle-grade novel, *Detour Ahead* was a National Jewish Book Award finalist. She and her children live in Washington, D.C.

Gabby Grant is a graduate of the University of Westminster, with a degree in Illustration. Her favorite thing is the challenge of producing illustrations in a wide range of styles. She uses a combination of brush and pen and ink, and applies color digitally. She lives in the United Kingdom.

Kar-Ben Publishing®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 32 • Trim: 9¼ x 9¼ • Ages: 3-8

March 4, 2025

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The Mitzvah Fairy

Danielle Joseph, illus. Christine Battuz

The Mitzvah Fairy, a kid with his wings, crown and wand, spreads joy every day. Includes an author's note matching up the mitzvahs in the story with Jewish values.

- A story about a father and son performing small acts of kindness
- Explains what mitzvahs are and that doing good deeds is a Jewish value
- Shows a boy—with a crown, wings, a wand, and a big heart—eager to help everyone around him

Danielle Joseph is the author of picture books and young adult novels, including the award-winning picture book *I Want to Ride the Tap Tap*. She was born in Cape Town, South Africa and now lives in Maryland with her family and dog Ringo. Danielle believes in the power of kindness and spreads joy wherever she can.

Christine Battuz studied drawing and painting in Italy. Her many illustrated children's books include *Something New for Rosh Hashanah*. Working internationally, she speaks both English and French. She lives in Quebec.

Kar-Ben Publishing®

Price: HC: \$18.99

Pages: 24 • Trim: 9¼ x 11 • Ages: 4-9

February 4, 2025

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Passover on Everest

Rachelle Burk, illus. Craig Orbach

Cheryl and Nikki Bart are a Jewish mother-daughter mountain climbing team. In this story about kindness across cultures, Nikki and her mother experience a seder like no other—on the highest mountain in the world.

- Exciting and true story
- Combines Passover, Jewish spirituality, and a real-life adventure story
- Note from Cheryl and Nikki Bart at the end of the book

Rachelle Burk writes fiction and nonfiction books for children. She also entertains kids as Mother Goof Storyteller and Tickles the Clown. Rachelle is a retired social worker who enjoys traveling and making mosaic art. Visit rachelburk.com.

Craig Orbach is an award-winning children's book illustrator living in the Northwest. He teaches children's book illustration and oil painting at several local colleges. In his free time he enjoys painting landscapes and sharing his books with kids during school and library visits.

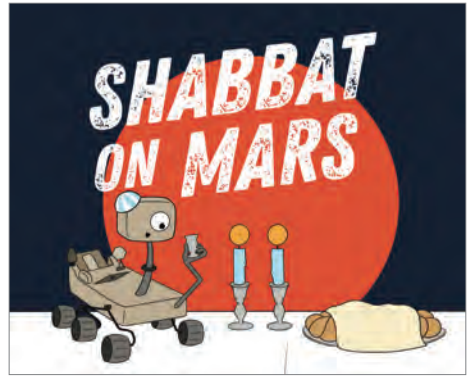
Intergalactic Afikoman

Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 44 • Trim: 9 x 11 • Ages: 4-10

January 7, 2025

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Shabbat on Mars

Jeff Ward, illus. Gila von Meissner

What would it really be like to celebrate Shabbat on Mars? Through a series of questions, this exciting, informative, and scientifically accurate book compares Shabbat on Earth to Shabbat on Mars.

- Answers kids' questions about what Shabbat might really be like if we celebrated it on Mars
- Combines super-fun Jewish questions and true scientific answers based on all the latest research and theories
- Written by a rocket scientist who is married to a rabbi

Dr. Jeff Ward is a real-life rocket scientist who has designed and built satellites, rockets, and space capsules for SpaceX and NASA. He lives in Denver with his wife (a rabbi), their kids, and a doodle named Luna.

Gila von Meissner is an illustrator from North Germany. She lives with her Israeli cat in a tiny house at a lake. She loves critters, jasmine tea, and chocolate.

Intergalactic Afikoman

Price: HC: \$19.99

Pages: 64 • Trim: 10 x 8 • Ages: 4-12

March 4, 2025

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IT'S YOUR
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MAIASAURA

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