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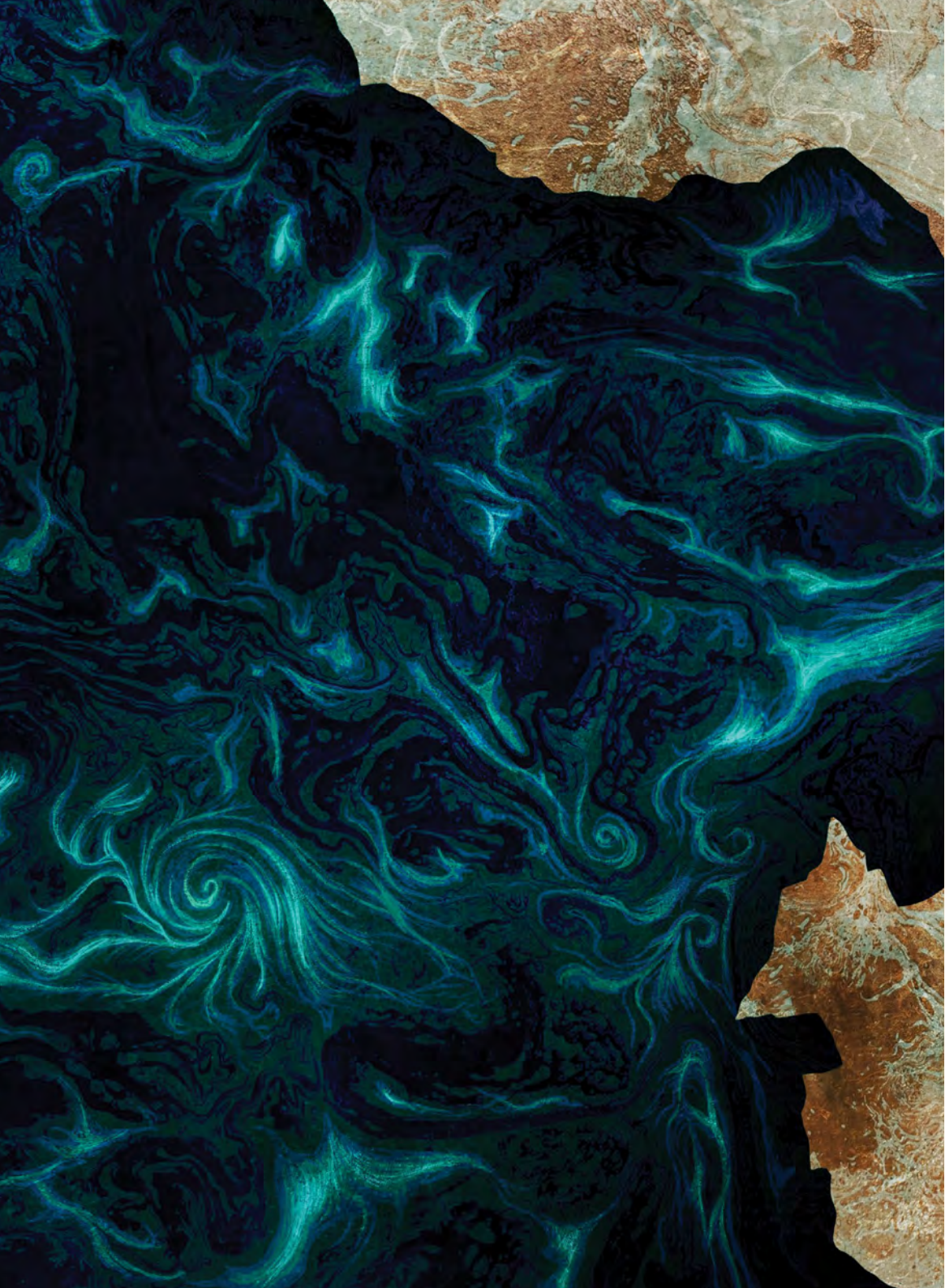


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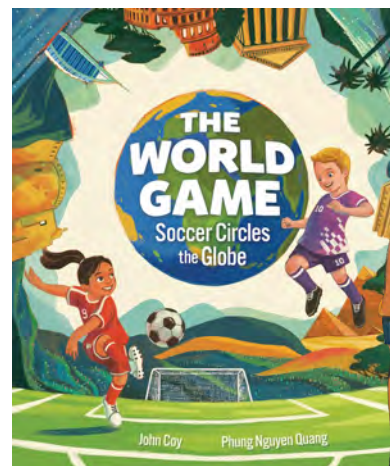
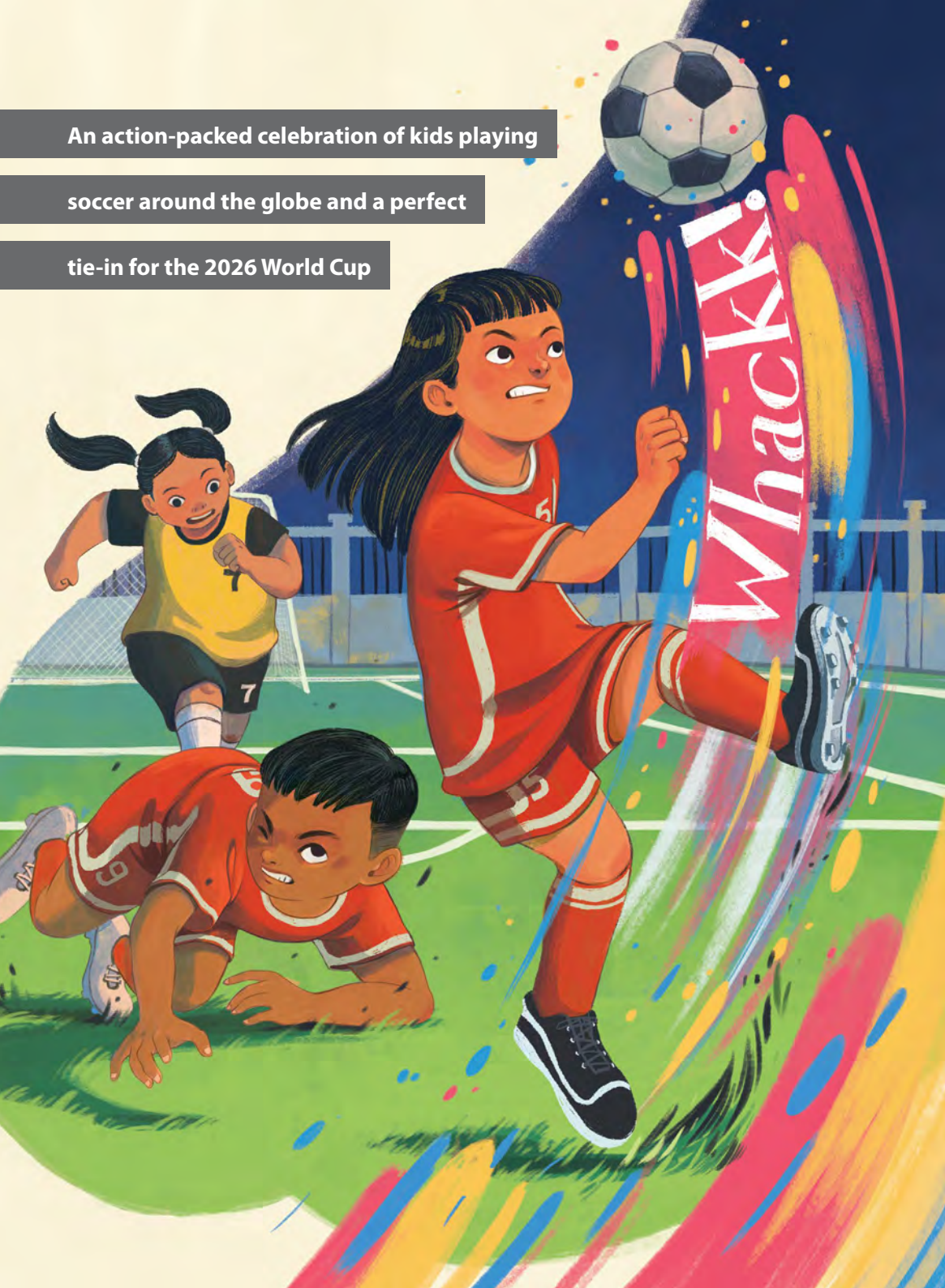


IMAGE FRONT COVER AND OPPOSITE
©26 KHOA LE FROM *THE OCEAN'S HEART*, PAGE 29

An action-packed celebration of kids playing

soccer around the globe and a perfect

tie-in for the 2026 World Cup



The World Game

Soccer Circles the Globe

John Coy, illustrated by Phung Nguyen Quang

Thwaack! Whumppp! Klangg!

Follow a fast-paced soccer game around the globe, moving to a new location with each turn of the page. The game begins in early morning in Chicago, USA, and spans time zones, with a nighttime matchup in Shenzhen, China; an early evening game in Kochi, India; and mid-afternoon match in Lagos, Nigeria. Action-packed text and vibrant illustrations will keep readers hooked until the final *goooooooooal!*

John Coy is the author of the picture books *Strong to the Hoop*, *Around the World*, *Hoop Genius*, *Game Changer*, and *Their Great Gift*. He lives in Minneapolis and visits schools nationally and internationally.

Phung Nguyen Quang is a children book author and illustrator based in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. His work is inspired by the cultural and traditional of Vietnam and South Asia.

A joyful portrayal of the world's most popular sport

Ages 5–10

Picture Books
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
May 5, 2026
Hardcover
\$18.99

British
translation,
audio, enhanced
ebook with
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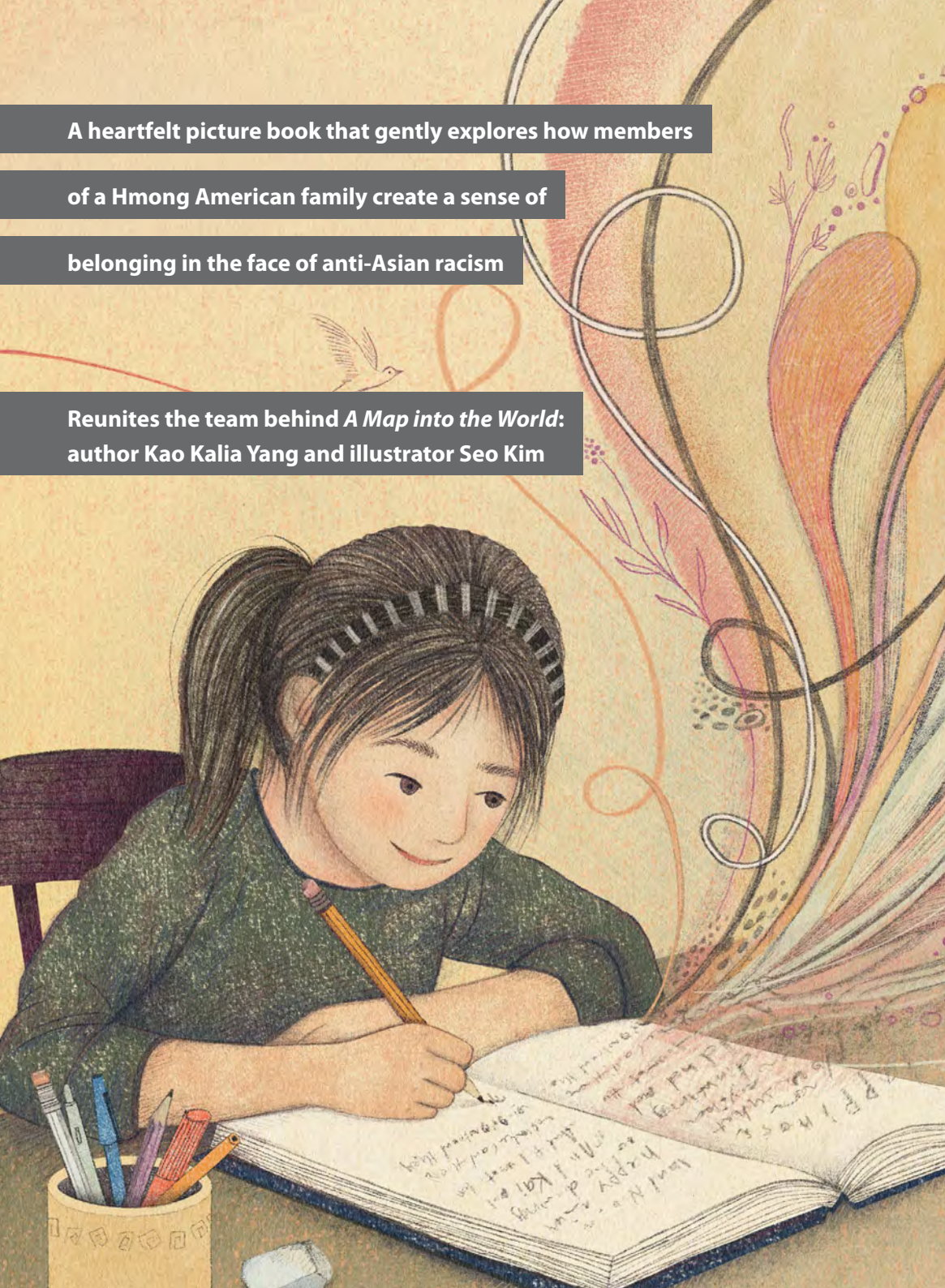
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Transatlantic
Literary Agency
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art: Lerner

A heartfelt picture book that gently explores how members

of a Hmong American family create a sense of

belonging in the face of anti-Asian racism

Reunites the team behind *A Map into the World*:
author Kao Kalia Yang and illustrator Seo Kim



A Home on the Page

Kao Kalia Yang, illustrated by Seo Kim

After Nou, a young Hmong American girl, finds "Asians Go Home" spray-painted on the mailbox in front of her family's house, she tells her parents she wants to leave. They talk with her about home and about the different ways they find comfort and belonging. Nou discovers that her father's home is in the songs he performs, and her mother's home is in the garden. Nou talks with other family members, and she begins writing stories in a notebook. Little by little, she creates a place where she belongs—a home on the page.

Kao Kalia Yang is an award-winning author of books for children and adults including Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature winner *From the Tops of the Trees* and an Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature Honor for *The Rock in My Throat*. She lives in Minnesota and is committed to the telling of stories that will inspire hope, find beauty, and offer refuge to those in need.

Seo Kim is an award-winning illustrator, designer, and educator who lives in Maryland with her husband and pets.

Ages 5–10

Picture Books
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
February 3, 2026
Hardcover
\$18.99

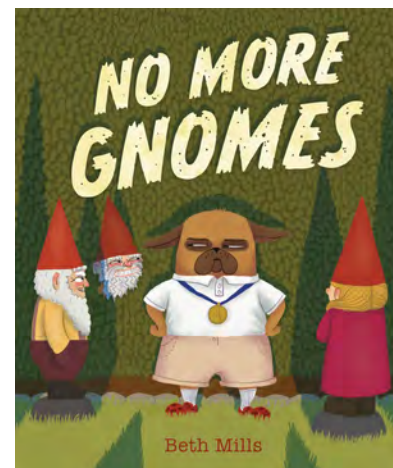
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Erin Murphy
Literary Agency

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An absurdly hilarious story of a polite young dog who cannot stand his neighbor's gnome statues but doesn't want to tell the truth—and risk hurting her feelings



No More Gnomes

Beth Mills

Herbert is the politest kid in town. He has a medal and everything! But when Ms. Goat, his neighbor and after-school babysitter, starts collecting garden gnomes, things take a turn for the worse. Those gnomes won't stop staring at him. How rude! How can Herbert tell Ms. Goat the truth about how he feels about the gnomes without hurting her feelings? A laugh-out-loud story about good intentions and creepy lawn ornaments!

Beth Mills is an author and illustrator who lives in Texas with her family. Her picture book *Ella McKeen, Kickball Queen* received the International Literacy Association's Primary Fiction Honor and the 2019 Writers League of Texas Picture Book Award.

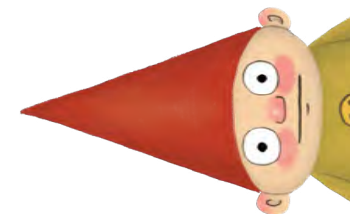


Ages 5–9

Picture Books
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
September 9, 2025
Hardcover
\$18.99

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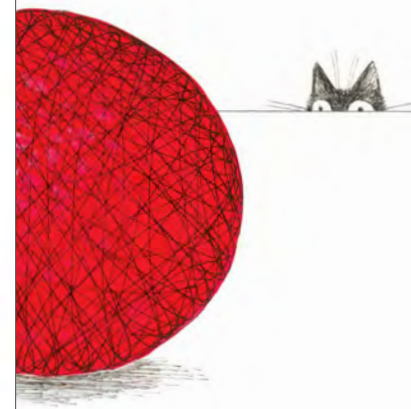
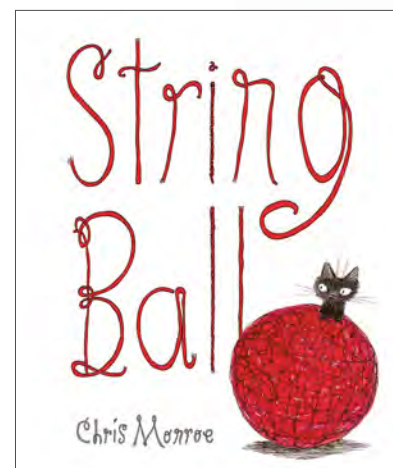
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Painted Words



Will appeal to fans of *Creepy Carrots*
by Aaron Reynolds, illustrated by Peter Brown

Follow along on a kitten's epic journey and safe return home

in this nearly wordless picture book



Ages 4–8

Picture Books
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
May 6, 2025
Hardcover
\$18.99

All rights: Lerner

String Ball

Chris Monroe

When a curious kitten encounters its young owner's string ball craft project, an amazing adventure ensues! The kitten squeezes inside the ball and begins to roll . . . right out the open front door. Yikes! Kitten and ball encounter playful pups, pecking birds, a baby in a carriage, and one very slippery slide. Whee!

In the tradition of *Kitten's First Full Moon* and *Spot, the Cat*, author-illustrator Chris Monroe takes readers on a journey they won't soon forget.

"Crafting meets cat curiosity in this purr-fectly elegant, nearly wordless story from Monroe." —PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

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.



A girl realizes that her dad struggles to read her bedtime stories



The Fearless Storyteller

Cassie Silva, illustrated by Ana Zurita

When a young girl's father is scared of the unicorns in her book, she hides it to protect him. At the next bedtime, she selects a book about giraffes, which are much less scary. Right? Wrong! After her dad helps her overcome a fear of her own, he reveals that he is scared of the words in her books, not the animals. Together the father and daughter use positive visualizations to overcome their fears. This story is a love letter to ESL (English as a second language) and illiterate parents and grandparents who get asked to read bedtime stories.

"A positive parent-child relationship, a positive storyline, and great characters. Love it!" —KISS THE BOOK

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.

Ages 4–9

Picture Books
9 x 9 in
32 pages
April 1, 2025
Trade Hardcover
\$18.99

All rights: Lerner



A boy realizes that he's more than just shy after receiving

a custom patchwork quilt of his milestones



Saif's Special Patches

Humera Malik, illustrated by 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 that he's so much more. He was brave when he went down the biggest slide at the Eid picnic. He was smart when he won the scavenger hunt among his friends. He was persistent when it took him a year to learn to read the Quran. He's helpful when he lends a hand to clean up the mosque. Saif isn't just shy. Like his patchwork quilt, he is still growing.

"This warm tale about self-realization and growth is recommended for picture book collections." —SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL

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.

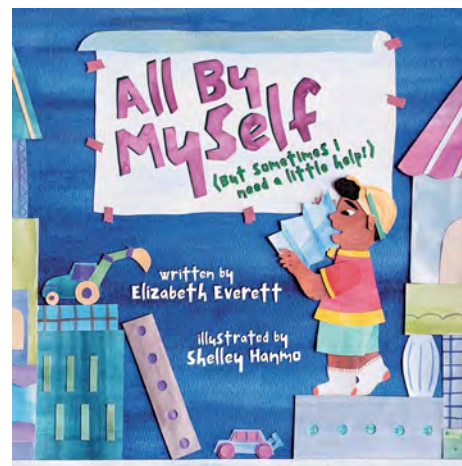
Ages 4–9

Picture Books
11 x 9 in
32 pages
March 4, 2025
Trade Hardcover
\$18.99

All rights: Lerner

A young child celebrates activities that

he can do alone and also with help



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

Elizabeth Everett, illustrated by Shelley Hanmo

I can do many things all by myself, but sometimes I need a little help.

A young child boasts about all the new things they can do, such as stack blocks, connect two puzzle pieces, and put on their shoes. When it comes time to build a castle, complete a full puzzle, or tie their laces, they may have to ask for help. And that's okay! Elizabeth Everett channeled her experience as a teacher to pen this empowering story, and Shelley Hanmo used vibrant, fun cut paper art to bring a child's favorite activities to do (with help!) to life.

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.

Beautiful cut paper artwork throughout

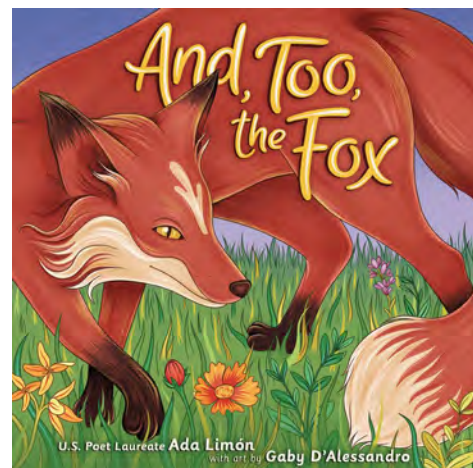
Ages 3–8

Picture Books
10 x 10 in
32 pages
March 4, 2025
Trade Hardcover
\$18.99

All rights: Lerner



A joyful look at a fox from U.S. Poet Laureate Ada Limón



And, Too, the Fox

Ada Limón, illustrated by Gaby D'Alessandro

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

U.S. 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.

"Children will be captivated by Fox as they join him on a joyful romp through his world." — STARRED, SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL

Ada Limón is the author of six books of poetry, including *The Carrying*, which won the National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry. She was 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*.

Ages 5–9

Picture Books
9¼ x 9¼ in
24 pages
January 7, 2025
Hardcover
\$18.99

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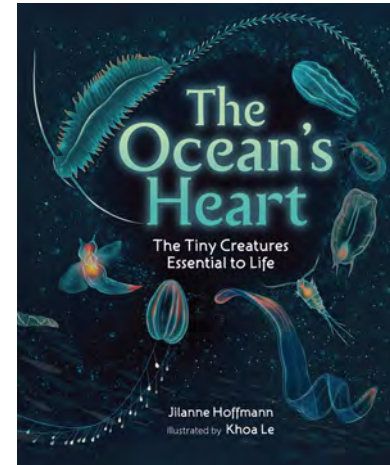
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Editions

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art: Lerner



A poetic and visually stunning introduction

to an essential component in the ocean's food chain



The Ocean's Heart

The Tiny Creatures Essential to Life

Jilanne Hoffmann, illustrated by Khoa Le

*Far below the ocean's surface
live tiny, restless creatures
called zooplankton.
They are the ocean's heart.*

Dive into the incredible undersea lives of zooplankton, miniscule animals that race to the ocean's surface to feed on plants. It's the largest migration of animals on Earth, and it takes place every single night.

Jilanne Hoffmann is a freelance writer and author of stories for children and adults. She has a BS in Engineering and an MFA in creative writing, and she lives in San Francisco with her family.

Khoa Le is an illustrator, graphic designer and author based in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. She has illustrated numerous books, including the 2020 Sydney Taylor Honor book *Miriam at the River*.

Ages 6–10

Picture Books
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
March 3, 2026
Hardcover
\$19.99

British
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audiovisual
elements rights:
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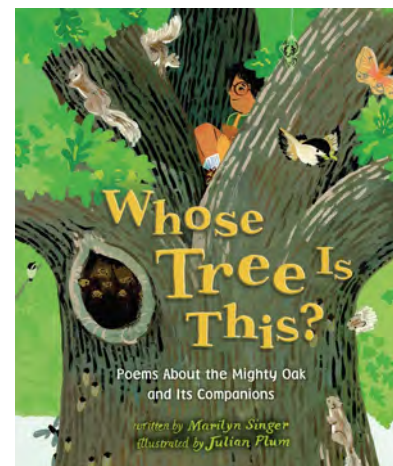
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Literary

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art: Lerner



A delightful, poetic introduction to how the oak tree,
a keystone species, benefits a broad range of animals—
including humans

Includes poems from the perspective of caterpillars,
chickadees, big brown bats, people, and the tree itself



Whose Tree Is This?

Poems about the Mighty Oak and Its Companions

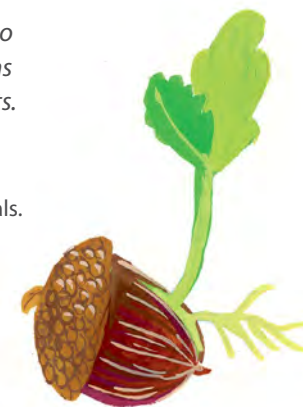
Marilyn Singer, illustrated by Julian Plum

Whose tree is this? / Reaching high, spreading wide, / this oak, so gracious, so spacious, / giving gifts throughout the year. / Acorns for eating, tree crooks for nests, / leaves that shelter many guests.

Explore an oak tree through poems written from the perspective of thirteen animals that rely on it for food and shelter. Readers will discover that the oak, a keystone species, belongs to all of the animals. Sidebars written in prose provide additional information about the ways each creature relies on oak trees as well as how these trees benefit the environment.

Marilyn Singer is the author of more than one hundred books for children and young adults. Her work has won several awards including the 2015 NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry. She lives in Brooklyn, New York with her family.

Julian Plum is an illustrator and author with a deep love of colors, stories, and creatures. He can be found in the Finger Lakes of New York illustrating warm, colorful flora, fauna, and fungi in gouache.



Ages 5–9

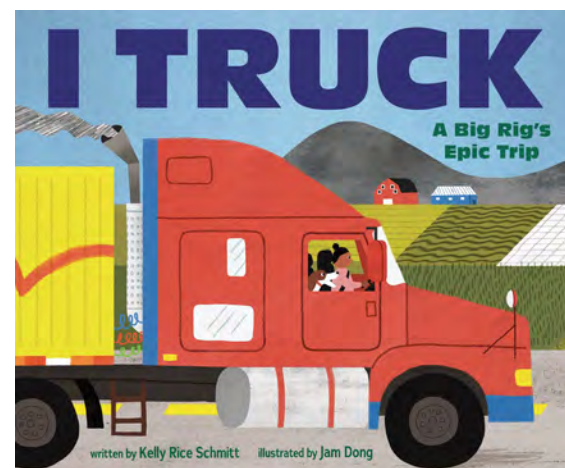
Picture Books
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
April 7, 2026
Hardcover
\$19.99

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Dramatic rights,
text: the author

Dramatic rights,
art: Bookends
Literary Agency

A fun and fast-paced look at trucks,
as told by a semitruck on a cross-country journey



I Truck

A Big Rig's Epic Trip

Kelly Rice Schmitt, illustrated by Jam Dong

Climb on up into the cab of a semitruck and take a cross-country journey with a driver and her trusty pup! The truck rumbles to the warehouse to pick up a load of toys and encounters many other trucks along the way. It makes multiple stops for deliveries, encounters a snowstorm, and navigates steep mountain roads. From the creators of *I Ship* and *I Fuel* comes an adventure that will keep readers' imaginations vrooming!

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.



Ages 5–9

Picture Books
10% x 8% in
40 pages
October 7, 2025
Hardcover
\$19.99

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audiovisual
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Dramatic
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Erin Murphy
Literary Agency
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art: Painted
Words

A fascinating introduction to Kathleen Friel,

who was born with cerebral palsy and grew up to earn a PhD

and start her own lab to help kids with cerebral palsy

Will appeal to fans of *Never Give Up*: Dr. Kati Karikó
and *Race for the Future of Vaccines* by Debbie Dadey



Rewriting the Rules

How Dr. Kathleen Friel Created New Possibilities for Brain Research and Disability

Danna Zeiger, illustrated by Josée Bisailon

When Kathleen Friel was young, she was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, and a doctor told her parents all the things she'd never be able to do. They left his office for good and found a new doctor. As Kathleen grew up, she found her own methods to tackle tricky tasks and make her way through the world. After becoming fascinated by science, she went on to earn a PhD, investigating how injured brains can build new connections. She now runs her own lab, developing new techniques to help others with cerebral palsy. This is the incredible story of how a determined scientist rewrote the rules and followed her dreams.

Before writing for children, **Danna Zeiger** was a biology professor and program director for Fisher College's Biology Program and established the STEM accessibility and educational resource DrZatHome. She lives in Massachusetts with her family.

Josée Bisailon grew up in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada. Her illustrations are a mixture of collage, drawings, and digital montage, taking us into a richly detailed and multidimensional world.

Ages 6–10

Picture Books
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
September 9, 2025
Hardcover
\$19.99

British
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Dramatic rights,
art: Lerner



Ages 10–14
Middle Grade Fiction
5¼ x 7½ in
328 pages
May 5, 2026
Trade Hardcover
\$19.99

British translation, audio rights: Lerner
Dramatic rights: Storm Literary Agency

The Summer Scrapbook

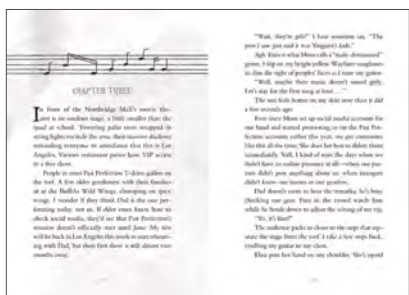
Florence Migga

Ava, Becca, and Cat are inseparable best friends who dread spending a summer apart after eighth grade. Outgoing Ava is dragged to London for her dad's job, anxious Becca is sent to summer camp, and quiet Cat is left at home. Phones aren't allowed at Becca's camp, and Ava's parents restrict her use of devices, so the friends vow to stay in touch through letters and collect souvenirs of their experiences to compile into a joint scrapbook at the end of the summer. As the girls step out of their comfort zones—and out of the roles they each play in the trio—they find themselves and their friendship changing and growing.

Florence Migga is an author based in southern Florida. She is the creator of the popular book review blog Book Nerds Across America. *The Summer Scrapbook* is her middle grade debut.

A fun and gentle homage to tween friendship

Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants for younger readers



Ages 10–14
Middle Grade Fiction
5¼ x 7½ in
336 pages
February 3, 2026
Trade Hardcover
\$19.99

British translation, audio rights: Lerner
Dramatic rights: Bradford Literary Agency

Choir Grrrl

Ashley Granillo

Thirteen-year-old Alondra was born into a musical family; her dad, former frontman of an alt-rock band, has taught her and her sisters to follow in his footsteps. Despite secretly liking quieter music, Alondra is committed to the band she and her sisters have formed. But when a classmate recruits her for a choir group, Alondra rediscovers her love of singing and making music. Afraid to upset the delicate balance in her family, she covertly practices with the choir between shows with the band—until her secrets are exposed. Will she be forced to choose between two things she loves? Or can she bring the different parts of her life into harmony?

Ashley Granillo is a Mexican American writer based in Los Angeles. She volunteers as a local artist judge for the annual Sidewalk Poetry Project and teaches as an associate professor of English. Her debut middle grade novel, *Cruzita and the Mariacheros*, was a 2025 Pura Belpré Children's Author Honor Book.

A fun and heartwarming story of finding your voice—in any musical genre



Ages 9–13
Middle Grade
Fiction
5¼ x 7½ in
336 pages
September 9, 2025
Trade Hardcover
\$19.99

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& Bourret LLC

Zeyna Lost and Found

Shafaq Khan

In 1970, twelve-year-old Zeyna has grown up in London but has never quite felt like she fits in. Her monotonous life is suddenly interrupted when Zeyna's parents decide to visit their native Pakistan—where Zeyna feels she doesn't fit in either. But then her parents disappear, leaving behind a string of clues that connect them to an international jewel heist. Along with her annoying little brother and her clever Pakistani cousin, Zeyna sets out to find her parents and clear their names. Along the way, she discovers that being shaped by two cultures doesn't have to mean she's always an outsider.

"An entertaining cross-border adventure, sure to thrill readers."
—KIRKUS REVIEWS

Shafaq Khan grew up in Jubail Industrial City, Saudi Arabia, along the Persian Gulf. She now works at Stanford Law School and lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and children.

A fun, witty, and fast-paced adventure / mystery story set along the Hippie Trail in 1970s Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, and Turkey.



Ages 8–13
Middle Grade
Fiction
5¼ x 7½ in
280 pages
February 3, 2026
Trade Hardcover
\$18.99

British
translation,
audio rights:
Lerner
Dramatic rights:
Wendy Schmalz
Agency

Rules for Liars

Debra Garfinkle and April Patten

Rebecca and Nikki are two girls facing life's toughest challenges. Rebecca is overwhelmed by the pressure of preparing for her bat mitzvah while grieving the loss of her mother and dealing with growing insecurity. Her friendship with Hailey is fraying, leaving Rebecca to find comfort in her dog, Meatball. Meanwhile, Nikki's family has lost their home, forcing them to move into a smaller, less glamorous apartment. Nikki hides her financial struggles by lying to her old friends, even stealing money to maintain appearances. As their paths cross, Rebecca and Nikki form a deep, unexpected bond. Together, they face their grief, guilt, and personal struggles, ultimately learning to accept themselves and each other.

Debra Garfinkle is the author of 37 books for children and teens. She lives in Southern California with her husband and one-eyed dog. Debra has three grown children and a law degree. She loves speaking at libraries, schools, and conferences.

April Patten is the pseudonym of a *New York Times* best-selling thriller author.

A heartfelt story of navigating loss, friendship, and self-discovery



Ages 10–14
Middle Grade
Fiction
5¼ x 7½ in
272 pages
March 3, 2026
Trade Hardcover
\$18.99

British
translation,
audio rights:
Lerner
Dramatic rights:
East West
Literary Agency

Wild Mountain Ivy

Shannon Hitchcock

Twelve-year-old Ivy is still sick months after catching a common virus. Hoping for a reset, Ivy and her mom spend the summer in the Blue Ridge Mountains, where Ivy's uncle has converted an old house into a bed and breakfast. Ivy starts dreaming about a girl named Jessie Pearl, who stayed at the house a hundred years ago when it was a sanatorium, a treatment center for tuberculosis patients. As Ivy delves into the history of the house, hoping to find out what happened to Jessie, she also makes changes in her own life—discovering that rest isn't weakness, that difference isn't failure, and that healing can come in many forms.

Shannon Hitchcock grew up on her grandparents' farm in rural North Carolina. She is the author of numerous middle grade novels including *Ruby Lee & Me*, *The Ballad of Jessie Pearl*, and *One True Way*.

An accessible blend of contemporary and historical fiction celebrating the many ways to live a satisfying life with chronic illness



Rewilding

Lisa Gerlits, illustrated by Savanna Durr

Even though her dad calls her "Bruiser," eleven-year-old Joy isn't as strong as she looks. With Dad gone and Mom depressed, it's up to Joy to care for the house and her younger brother Ian. Struggling with old clothes in sizes too small now and Ian's constant hunger, Joy fears the school counselor might call Child Protective Services. When a baby bird falls from its nest, Joy recalls her dad's warning, "You don't know your own strength." Seeking help, she strikes a deal with her quirky neighbor, Ezzie. As Joy, Ian, and her friend restore the garden, they discover the beauty of "rewilding," and Joy questions her father's views.

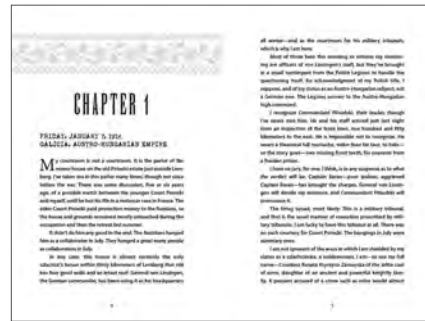
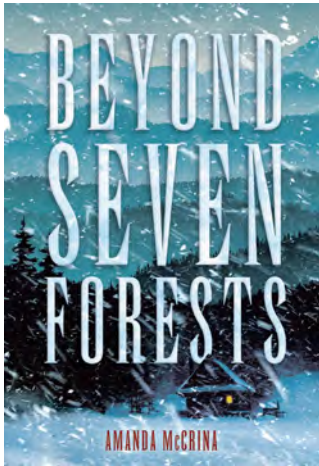
"A realistic portrayal of a tween doing her best to hold her fractured family together; a poignant must-have for all middle grade collections."
—SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL

Lisa Gerlits is an award-winning author, muralist, and children's art teacher. Her debut novel, *A Many Feathered Thing* (2020), won the Oregon Spirit Book Award. She lives with her husband and three kids in Silverton, Oregon.

Savanna Durr is an illustrator based in Richmond, VA. She primarily illustrates digitally and focuses on creating representation within her work in the hope that others can look at her art and see themselves.

Ages 9–12
Middle Grade
Fiction
5¼ x 7½ in
288 pages
August 5, 2025
Trade Hardcover
\$19.99

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Chair Press c/o
Lerner



Ages 14–18

Young Adult
Fiction
5½ x 8¼ in
192 pages
February 3, 2026
Trade Hardcover
\$18.99

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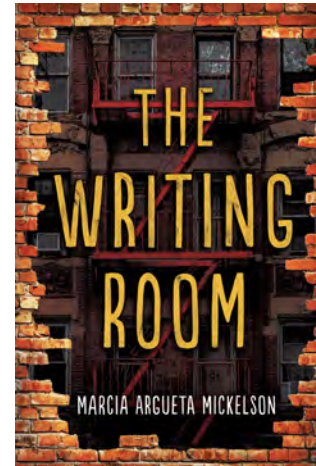
Beyond Seven Forests

Amanda McCrina

By the winter of 1916, World War I has ravaged the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Eighteen-year-old Polish countess Renata Zamoyka has lost everything to the Russian occupation: her family, her home, her fiancé. But with the Russians in retreat and the Germans now in charge, life isn't much easier. When two Polish deserters from the Russian army turn up on her doorstep just before a fierce blizzard, Renia finds herself trapped in her own home alongside people she's long considered enemies. Cut off from the outside world while the storm rages, Renia must fight to survive; grapple with her wartime scars; and decide what justice, freedom, and healing look like for her.

Amanda McCrina is the author of several YA historical novels. After three years of teaching at an international school outside Madrid, Spain, she now lives outside Nashville, Tennessee, where she works as a bookseller.

A fresh take on a wartime saga



Ages 13–18

Young Adult
Fiction
5½ x 8¼ in
256 pages
November 4, 2025
Trade Hardcover
\$19.99

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Lerner
Dramatic rights:
Kathryn Green
Literary Agency,
LLC

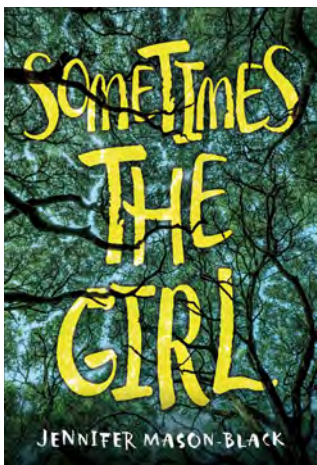
The Writing Room

Marcia Argueta Mickelson

Immediately after high school graduation, eighteen-year-old Maya is kicked out of her wealthy dad's NYC home; he prides himself on forcing his kids to "make their own way in the world." Maya's mom lives in Guatemala, so Maya crashes with friends while working and trying to land freelance writing gigs. Maya struggles to find her footing until she gets access to a "writing room," a shared workspace where she can focus—and get to know the intriguing neighbor, Jake, who's often there. When she discovers her dad is bankrolling a virulently anti-immigrant candidate for governor, Maya—the daughter of an immigrant—takes a stand, using the voice she's found in the writing room.

Marcia Mickelson was born in Guatemala and immigrated to the United States as an infant. Her work includes *Where I Belong*, for which she won a Pura Belpré Young Adult Author Honor. She graduated from Brigham Young University and lives in Texas with her husband and three sons.

A slice-of-life coming-of-age story that gracefully addresses larger themes of immigration, economic disparity, and emotional abuse



Ages 14–18

Young Adult
Fiction
5½ x 8¼ in
304 pages
May 6, 2025
Trade Hardcover
\$19.99

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Lerner
Dramatic rights:
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Sometimes the Girl

Jennifer Mason-Black

Eighteen-year-old Holiday needs a change. She's still shaken from her brother's recent suicide attempt, still pining over her ex, and still struggling to write again after an incident with a former mentor. To earn enough money for a life-rebalancing trip, Holi starts working for acclaimed local author Elsie McAllister, whose fame rests on a single novel published decades ago. It's an unglamorous gig: sorting through the elderly legend's attic and cataloging mementos, while Elsie refuses to provide writing advice aside from "Don't do it." But Elsie's attic contains secrets that change Holi's views on art, life, and the way they intertwine, as she grapples with choices that will redefine her own path.

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.

A suspenseful literary mystery that explores meaty questions about writing, fame, identity, and integrity



Ages 8–11

Series Fiction
5 x 7½ in
72 pages
January 1, 2026
Paperback
\$11.99

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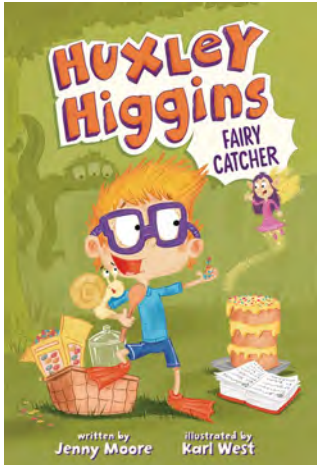
Magical Protection Agency

Annette M. Clayton, illustrated by Paula Zamudio

A long time ago, Luisa Lopez's great-great grandmother Rosa began the Magical Protection Agency, or MPA for short. It's a secret society that helps all the magical creatures of Moonstone. Luisa and her cousin Leo are the MPA's youngest protectors. When their magic keys glow, it's time for another mission!



Accessible chapter books perfect for fans of magical realism and humor



Ages 5–8

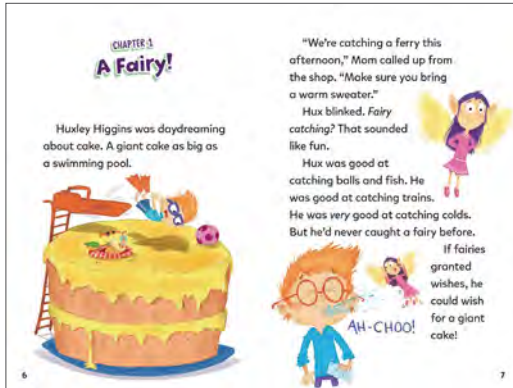
Series Fiction
5 x 7½ in
24 pages
August 1, 2025
Paperback
\$7.99

All rights: Lerner

Huxley Higgins

Jenny Moore, illustrated by Karl West

Huxley Higgins is a small seven-year-old with a BIG imagination . . . an imagination that often gets him into ridiculous predicaments. Young readers will laugh along with Hux's entertaining adventures in these early chapter books.



Early readers will laugh out loud at Hux's outlandish daydreams and the silly situations he gets himself into



Lily Lu to the Rescue

Cherilyn Chin, illustrated by 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.

"The stories are both entertaining and educational, offering valuable lessons on wildlife conservation that may inspire children to learn more about protecting the environment." —SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL



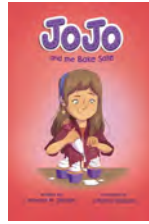
Accessible chapter books for kids who love animals



Ages 5–8

Series Fiction
5 x 7½ in
32 pages
January 1, 2026
Paperback
\$9.99

All rights: Lerner



Ages 6–9

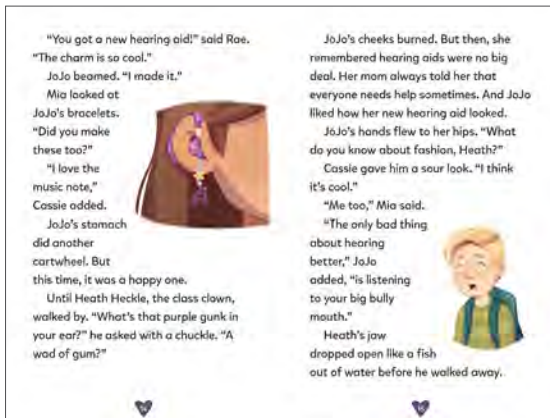
Series Fiction
5 x 7½ in
40 pages
August 1, 2025
Paperback
\$9.99

All rights: Lerner

JoJo

Annette M. Clayton, illustrated by Carolina Vázquez

JoJo Jupiter loves glitter, fashion, and the pop singer Ruby Red. And spending time with her besties is a must! These early chapter books contain fun and fabulous everyday stories that will excite young readers.



Accessible realistic fiction stories for beginning readers who love everything sparkles and friendship



Ages 5–8

Series Fiction
5 x 7½ in
24 pages
August 1, 2025
Paperback
\$7.99

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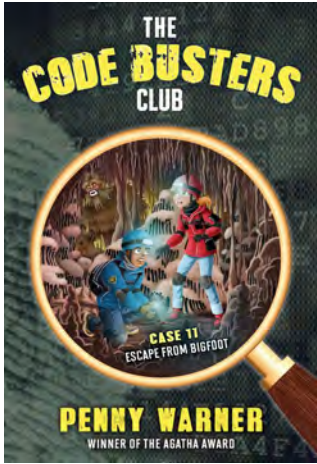
Queen Bee

Priti Birla Maheshwari, illustrated by 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.



The perfect early chapter book series, especially for those who love princesses



Ages 8–12

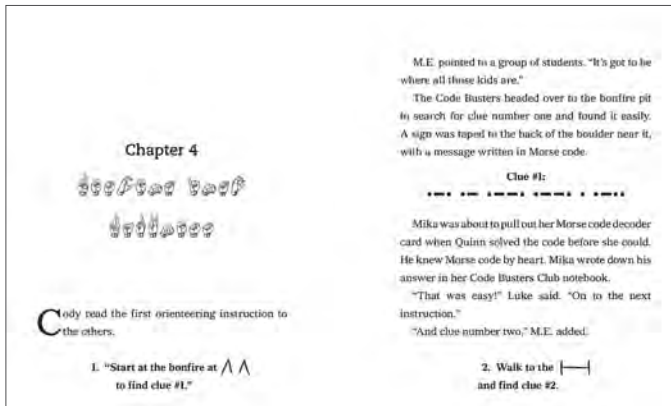
Series Fiction
5½ x 7½ in
184 pages
August 1, 2025
Paperback
\$9.99

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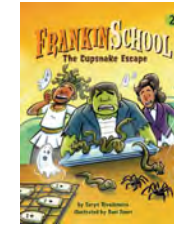
The Code Busters Club

Penny Warner

While on a field trip in the Gold Country, California, Cody keeps seeing a mysterious figure with red eyes . . . could it be Bigfoot? Join the Code Busters in their latest mystery.



A successful, interactive, Agatha Award-winning middle grade mystery series that invites readers to join the characters in breaking codes to solve mysteries



Frankinschool

Caryn Rivadeneira, illustrated by Dani Jones

While Fred is out sick, a visiting author signs Fred's book "To Frank." Then Fred's desk-mate Luisa suggests Fred must really be Frank in school, and an idea for Fred's creative writing assignment is born. Fred's What-If poem is coming together wonderfully, until a mist fills the room and the writing assignment comes to life. 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.



Comparable series to best-selling Junior Monster Scouts

Ages 7–11

Series Fiction
6 x 8 in
112–120 pages
February 6, 2024
October 7, 2025
Trade Hardcover
\$16.99

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Chair Press c/o
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Ages 11–18

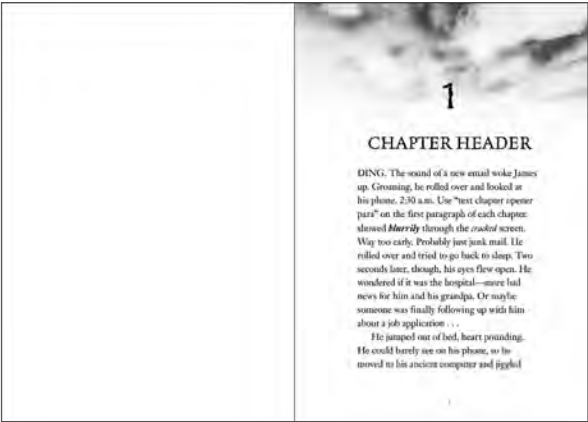
Series Fiction
5¼x 7½ in
112 pages
January 1, 2026
Paperback
\$9.99

All rights: Lerner

Demon Hunter

Jason M. Burns

Damon is no ordinary teen. He can see auras, which helps him identify demons and other monsters. Striving and reluctant readers join Damon and his friends on humorous and exciting demon hunting adventures.



High-interest with lower reading levels appropriate for struggling readers



Sammy Spider's Big Book of Jewish Holidays

Sylvia A. Rouss, illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn

Sammy Spider watches the Shapiros hang the calendar that shows all the Jewish holidays of the year. First comes Rosh Hashanah. "Spiders don't celebrate Rosh Hashanah. Spiders spin webs," says Mrs. Spider as the Shapiros dip apples in honey. "I like honey," said Sammy. "You are my little honey," said Mrs. Spider. "And you should stick close to me." Next comes Yom Kippur. A toot from the shofar blows a curious Sammy back to his web. Sammy slips in some oil on Hanukkah, escaping the spinning dreidels, and on Passover he passes over Josh Shapiro's chair to eat some matzah crumbs.

"A vibrant and educational journey through Jewish traditions."

—SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL

Sylvia A. Rouss is an award-winning author, early childhood educator, and the creator of the popular **Sammy Spider** series, celebrating its 25th anniversary with more than half a million Sammy Spider books sold. She lives in California.

Katherine Janus Kahn studied Fine Arts at the Bezalel School in Jerusalem and at the University of Iowa. She has illustrated many children's books, including Kar-Ben's popular **Sammy Spider** series. She lives in Wheaton, Maryland.

Ages 2–8

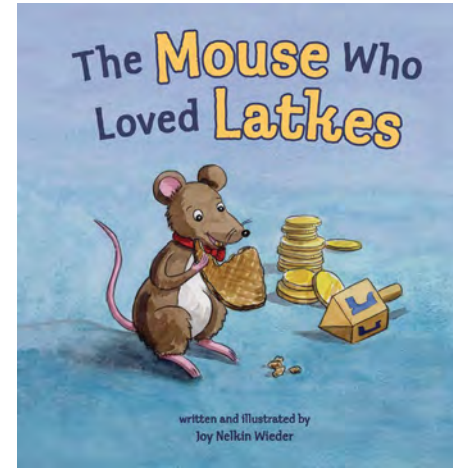
Jewish Interest
8½ x 11 in
24 pages
August 5, 2025
Hardcover
\$19.99

All rights: Lerner





A Hanukkah story about finding friendship in unexpected places



The Mouse Who Loved Latkes

Joy Nelkin Wieder

When the Katz family moves in, C.J. the mouse is scared. Nibbling jelly doughnut crumbs in the kitchen, he hears a soft voice say, "Hello." The Katz family is spinning a dreidel and eating chocolate coins. It looks like fun, but a mouse can't play with cats! "Hello again," says the soft voice. "Please don't go. I could use a friend." Then Mr. Katz comes in with what C.J. thinks is a huge mousetrap! "That's not a mousetrap," the littlest cat explains. "It's a menorah." C.J. joins the Katz family for dinner and helps them celebrate Hanukkah. "I'm glad you eat latkes and not mice!" he says.

Joy Nelkin Wieder is an author, artist, and educator. When she's not writing or illustrating books for children, she might be painting landscapes or training service dogs. She lives outside Boston with her husband and two cats.



Ages 2–8

Jewish Interest
9¼ x 9¼ in
32 pages
October 7, 2025
Hardcover
\$19.99

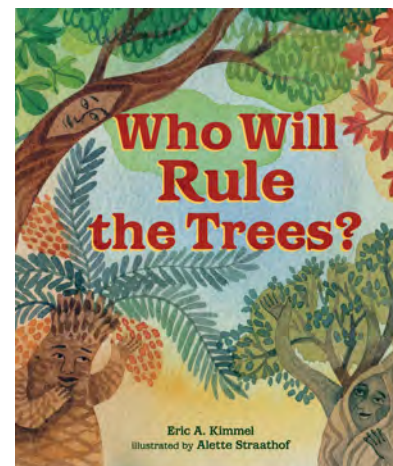
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The latest picture book

from hugely successful children's author Eric Kimmel



Who Will Rule the Trees?

Eric A. Kimmel, illustrated by Alette Straathof

After God appoints leaders for the animals, the trees feel they too should have a ruler. One by one, the oak, pine, maple, fig, and date palm make their case, each highlighting their unique qualities—strength, vision, beauty, and the ability to provide for others. But as the trees debate, one tree reveals something none of the others can offer—a gift that holds the power to bring light into the world. The trees begin to understand that true leadership isn't just about outward qualities, but about something that illuminates the world and sustains life.

Eric A. Kimmel is the author of the beloved holiday classics *Hanukkah Bear* and *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins* as well as the popular **Scarlett and Sam** series. His books have received awards including the 1990 Caldecott Honor Medal and the Regina Medal.

Alette Straathof was born and raised in a small town in The Netherlands. Her illustrations are colorful, happy and are drawn in a naive style. Alette works exclusively as a freelance illustrator and lives in Paris, France.

Ages 4–8

Jewish Interest
9¼ x 11 in
24 pages
January 6, 2026
Hardcover
\$19.99

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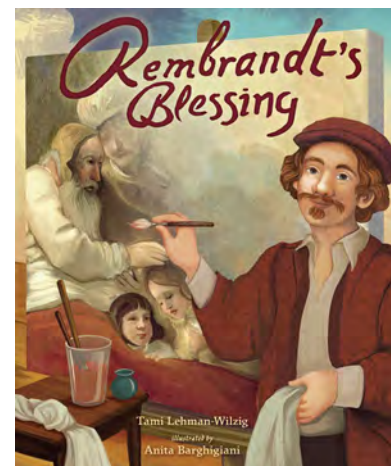
Dramatic rights,
art: Lerner



A work of historical fiction inspired by the

true friendship between Rembrandt and one of Amsterdam's

leading rabbis of the 1600s.



Rembrandt's Blessing

Tami Lehman-Wilzig

illustrated by Anita Barghigiani

Painting scenes from Bible stories was Rembrandt's passion. Many of his Amsterdam neighbors were Sephardic Jews, and the children would often come to play with the costumes at the renowned painter's house. Rabbi Menashe Ben Israel, the community's spiritual leader, encouraged his neighbors to pose for Rembrandt's biblical scenes. The rabbi helped the painter understand the descriptive words in the Hebrew bible. At the rabbi's home for Sabbath dinner, Rembrandt watches his friend cup his hands over his children's heads and say a blessing, which gives him an idea for a very special painting.

Tami Lehman-Wilzig is an award-winning author of 14 picture books, including *Keeping The Promise* and *Soosie, The Horse That Saved Shabbat*. Born in America, she lives in Kfar Saba, Israel, with her husband, where she shares her love of stories with her grandchildren.

Anita Barghigiani was born near Pisa, Italy. She is a graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts of Florence. When she attended the Bologna Children's Book Fair for the first time, she fell in love with children's books and decided to study illustration and entertainment design. She lives in Florence, Italy where she works, plays the guitar, and volunteers helping animals.



Ages 5–9

Jewish Interest
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
September 9, 2025
Hardcover
\$19.99

All rights: Lerner



The true story of Hungarian-Jewish Champion Gymnast Ágnes Keleti



Twist, Tumble, Triumph

The Story of Champion Gymnast Ágnes Keleti

Deborah Bodin Cohen and Kerry Olitzky
illustrated by 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.

"An inspiring and fascinating biography for readers interested in sports, history, or simply a good story of resilience." —STARRED, BOOKLIST

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.

Rabbi Kerry Olitzky led Big Tent Judaism and has taught at Hebrew Union College. A leader in the development of innovative Jewish education, he is the author of nearly 100 books. He lives in New Jersey.

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.



Ages 5–9

Jewish Interest
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
February 4, 2025
Hardcover
\$18.99

All rights: Lerner



Based on the true story of the friendship between tennis champions

Althea Gibson and Angela Buxton



Perfect Match

The Story of Althea Gibson and Angela Buxton

Lori Dubbin, illustrated by Amanda Quartey

When Althea Gibson first dreamed of joining the big American tennis leagues, she was denied because she was Black. Angela Buxton dreamed of joining the best tennis clubs in Britain, but she was rejected because she was Jewish. When Angela heard that Althea was coming to Britain to compete, she skipped school to see the match. If Althea didn't let hatred stop her from playing the game she loved, Angela wouldn't either. At the French Championships in 1956, Angela told Althea about her dream of winning Wimbledon with a doubles partner. To win as a team, they would have to stick to their strengths together. And they did.

"Recommended for history, sports, and biography collections looking for excellent picture books that ably diversify their offerings for this age group."

—SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL

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. 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!

Ages 5–9

Jewish Interest
9¼ x 11 in
32 pages
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2024
Hardcover
\$19.99

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