ACM
KIDS & ILLUSTRATION

2025-26
LOOK BOOK

Table of Contents

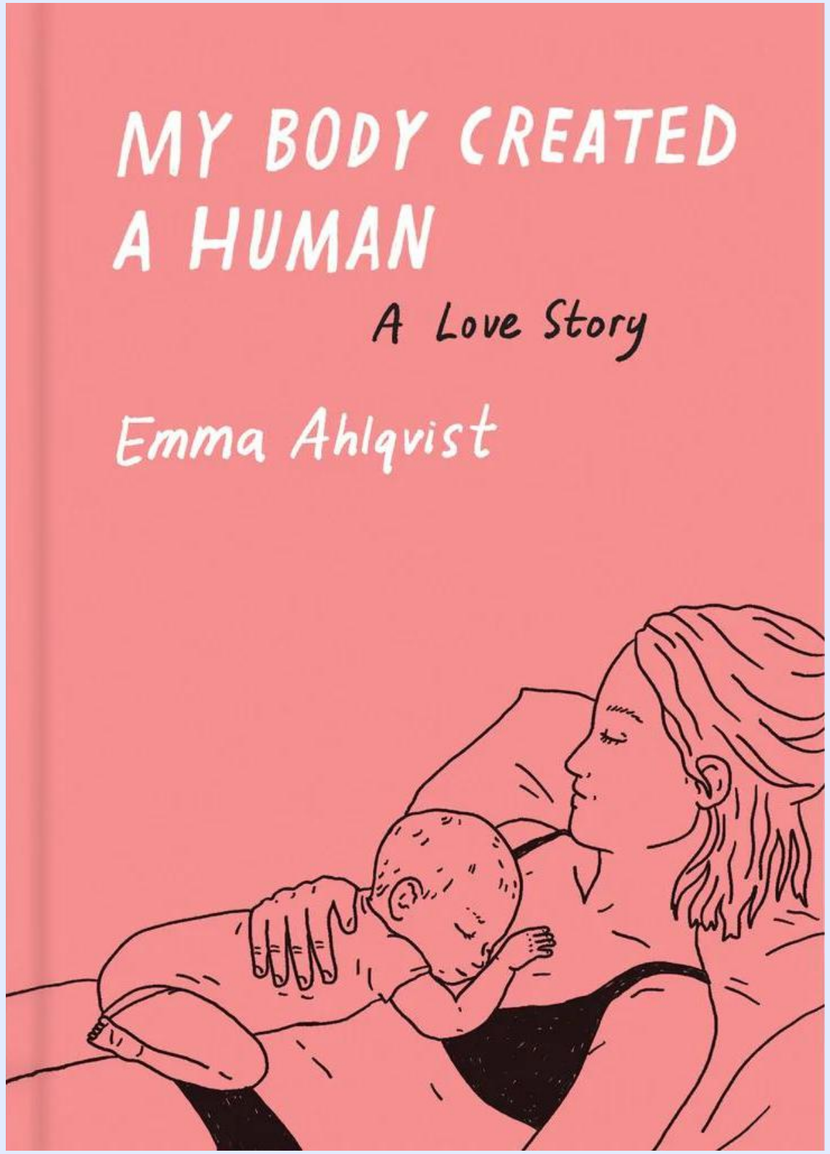
003 ILLUSTRATORS

220 AUTHORS

Illustrators

EMMA AHLQVIST

Emma Ahlqvist is an artist and writer born in Sweden and based in Scotland. She is a graduate of Edinburgh College of Art and mother to two children. Her illustrations have appeared in *The Guardian* and elsewhere, and her work on motherhood, which she shares on Instagram at @emmajahlqvist, has been featured by myriad websites and social media feeds. In 2017, Emma published a graphic novel in Swedish, *Ta mig härifrån (I'm Leaving Soon)*. Her first book in English is *My Body Created a Human*, out from Princeton Architectural Press in September 2022.



EMMA AHLQVIST

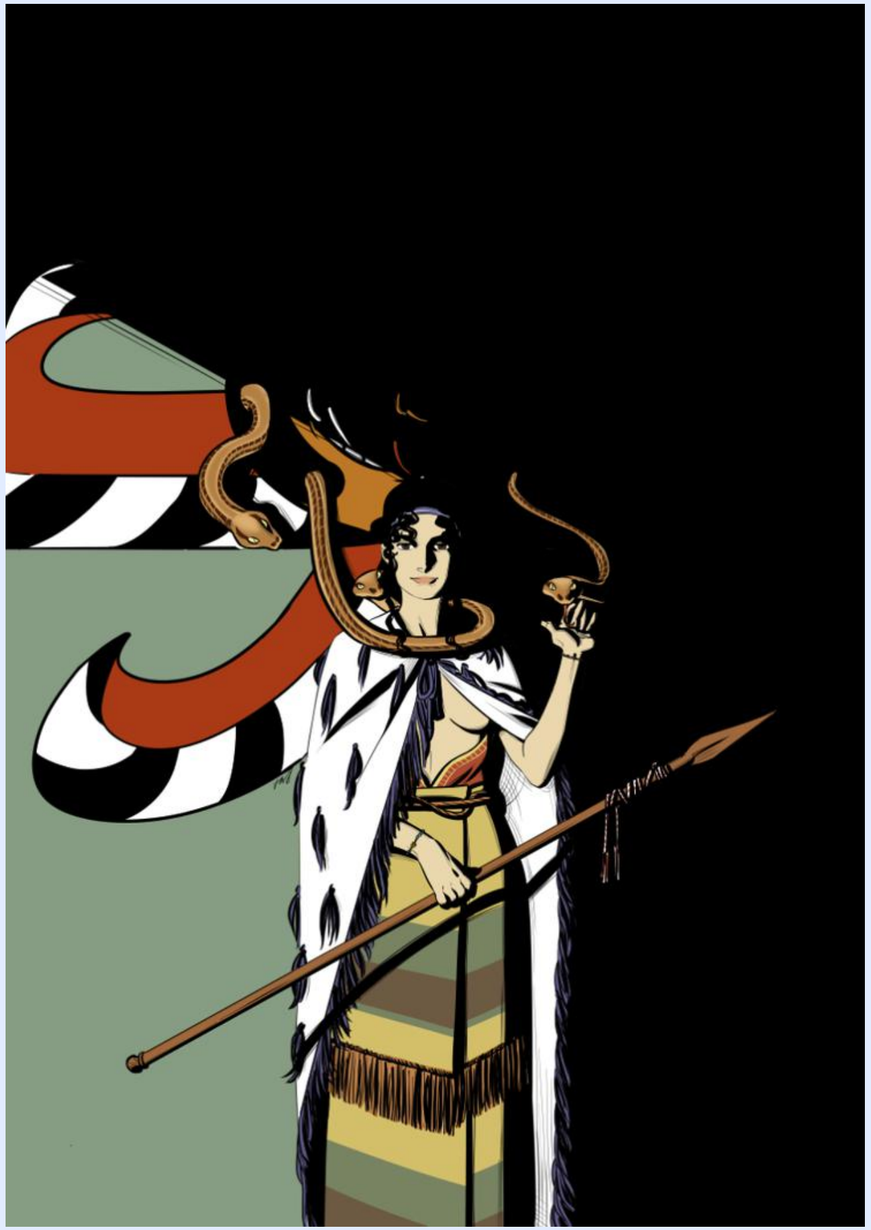
Think of Emma for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and animation.

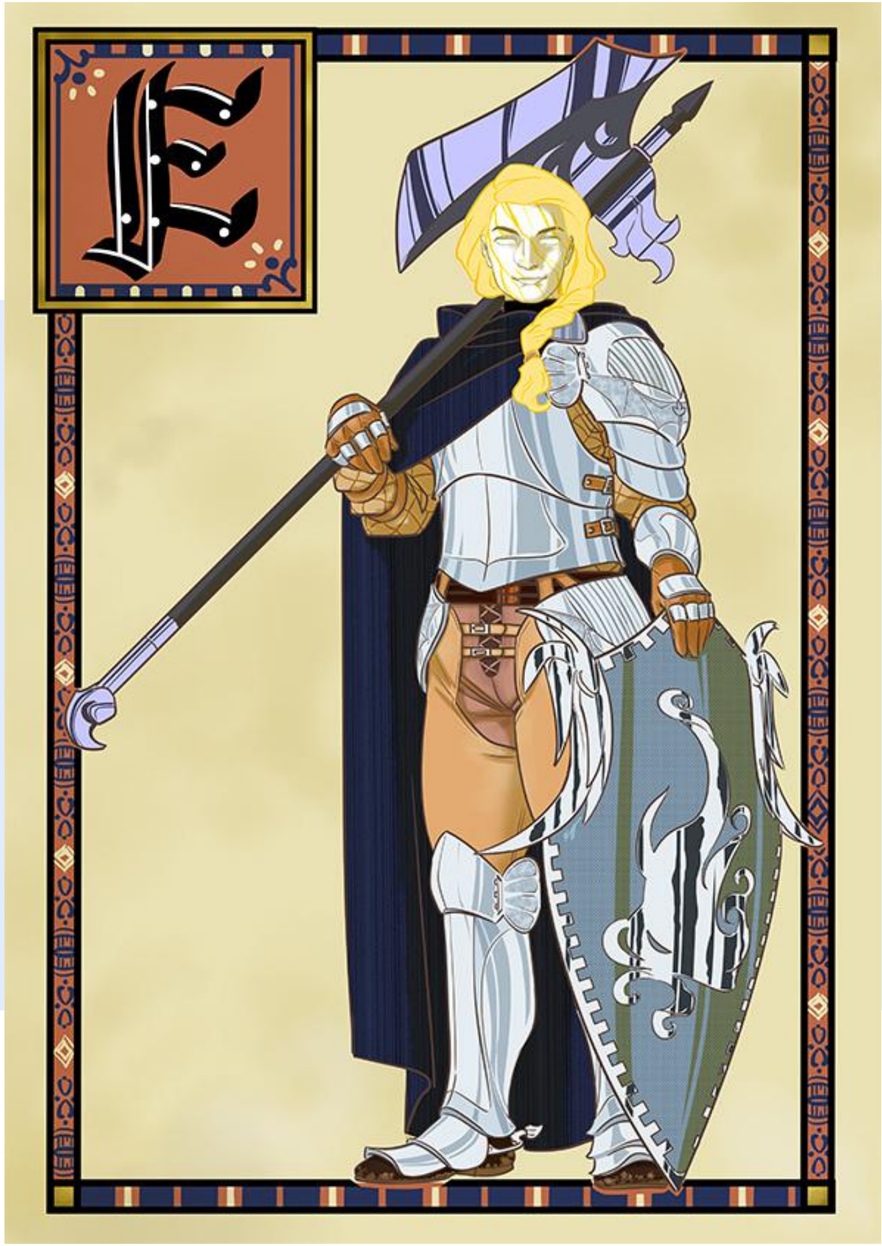
Representation: Maggie Cooper
mcooper@aevitascreative.com

TELÊNIA ALBUQUERQUE

Telênia Albuquerque is a Brazilian illustrator and comic creator with a heavy interest in History and Mythology. During 2019, Telênia worked as a penciller for *Raven the Pirate* Princess (Action Lab), a spin-off of the Eisner-nominated *Princeless* series. She has also been part of the PRISM-Award-winning *Dates* anthologies (Margins Publishing), as well as other independent publications and original works.



TELÊNIA ALBUQUERQUE



Think of Telênia for...

graphic novels, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

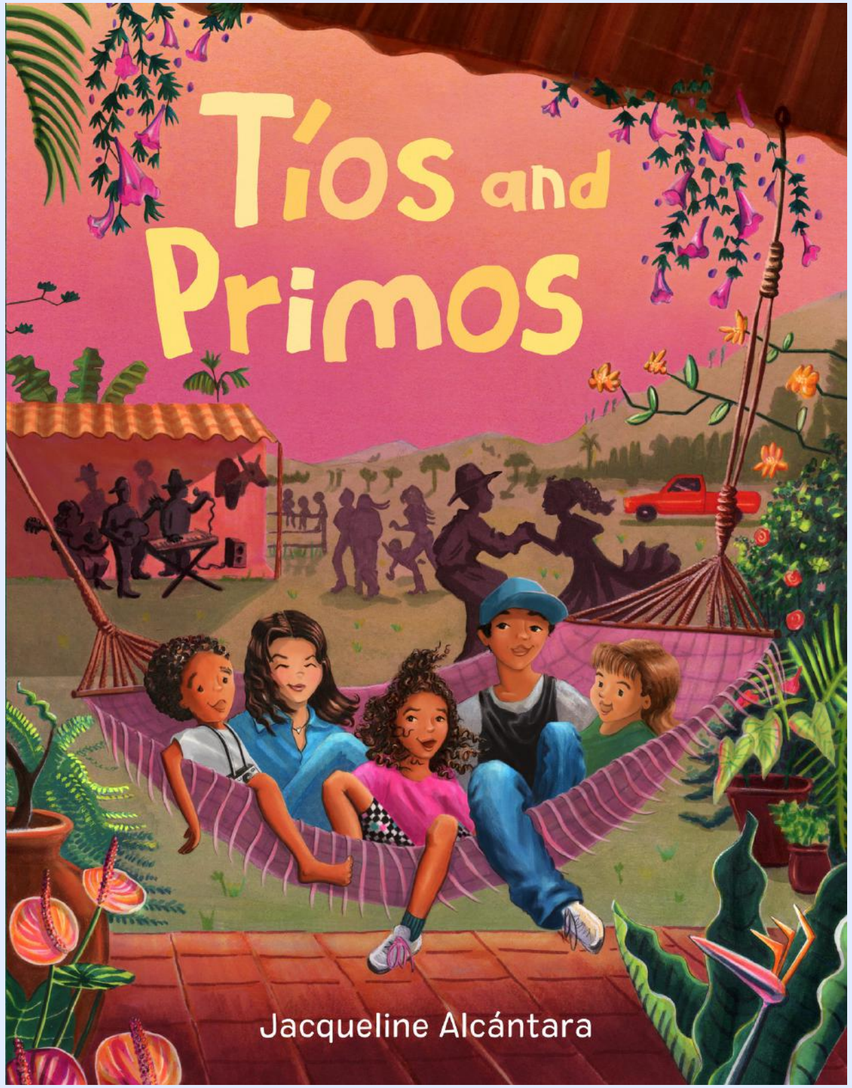
Telênia Albuquerque is a uniquely talented illustrator with a distinctly bold and graphic style. She is drawn to Latinx and LGBTQ+ stories, fun adventures, and historical fiction.

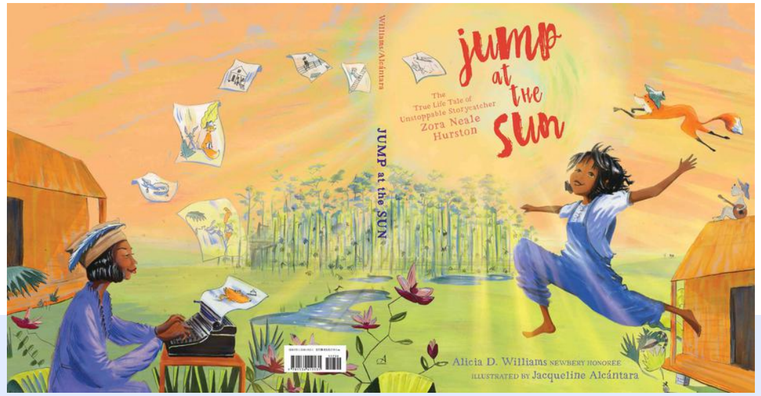
Representation: Erica Bauman
ebauman@aevitascreative.com

JACQUELINE ALCÁNTARA

Jacqueline Alcántara is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling illustrator of *Just Shine! How To Be a Better You*, by Sonia Sotomayor. She has illustrated several widely acclaimed picture books, including *Freedom Soup*, by *New York Times* bestselling author Tami Charles, *Jump at the Sun*, written by Newbery honoree Alicia D. Williams, and *Your Mama*, written by NoNieqa Ramos, which was a finalist for the Kirkus Prize. She has also illustrated book covers including *Solimar: The Sword of Monarchs*, by *New York Times* bestseller and Newbery Honoree Pam Muñoz Ryan. Jacqueline's illustration work has received numerous starred reviews, and her books have been named Best Books of the Year by Kirkus, School Library Journal, Shelf Awareness and The Horn Book, among others. Jackie's debut as author and illustrator, *Tíos and Primos*, published simultaneously in Spanish as *Tíos y primos*, received two starred reviews. Forthcoming books include *Wifredo's Jungle*, by Newbery honoree Margarita Engle.

Jacqueline created the artwork for the Chicago Women's March "Ladies Marching" poster, and has done editorial work for the Obama Foundation, NPR, The Chicago Reader, The Chicago Foundation for Women, The Southern Poverty Law Center, Elle Decor, and the University of Chicago, among others. She spends her days drawing, teaching and adventuring with her family. She is fueled by dance music, carbs and coffee, and has a boundless interest in learning new skills and taking on new challenges.





JACQUELINE ALCÁNTARA

Think of Jacqueline for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and animation.

Jackie enjoys working on books where she gets to do a deep dive into something new. A person, culture, event, or perhaps a story that provides an opportunity to try new materials and techniques. She loves stories with energy and movement, fashion and humor. In addition to picture books, she would love to be considered for chapter books, board books, and middle grade, YA and adult covers.

Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

DUC HUY AN

Duc Huy is a Vietnamese illustrator based in the US. After exploring various fields in his career path, he discovered his true calling in book illustrating. Duc Huy holds a degree in Game Art from George Brown College in Canada. He loves to work on stories that convey meaningful messages about lives in different cultures. Duc Huy has special care for children facing adversity in life and children in the LGBTQIA+ community who may be navigating confusion about their identities. He believes that every child should be able to find a book that speaks to them, and he wants to be the one creating those books for them. Duc Huy has also been a featured illustrator on SCBWI.

DUC HUY AN

Think of Duc Huy for...

book covers, chapter books, middle grade, and picture books.

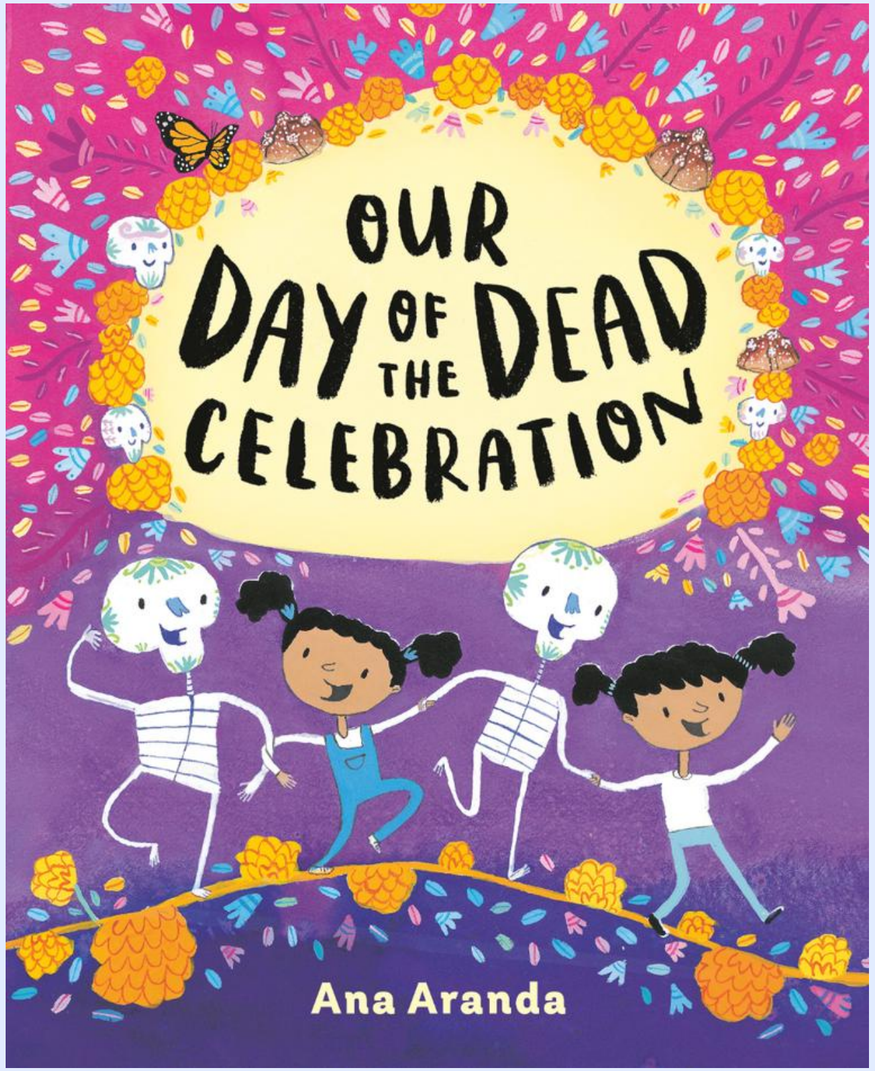
He is interested in illustrating emotions, dreams, magic and imagination, growth/transformation, LGBTQIA+, cultural diversity and traditions, family and friends, pets, adventure, and exploration.

Representation: Miranda Paul
mpaul@aevitascreative.com

ANA ARANDA

Ana Aranda is a children's book creator, illustrator, and art instructor born in Mexico and living in Brooklyn, New York. Her work has been featured in galleries and museums in the United States, France, Mexico, Italy, Norway, and Japan. In San Francisco, she painted murals in the Mission District, for the Consulate General of Mexico, and for the prestigious de Young Museum. She has collaborated with Google X, Amnesty International, 826 Valencia, the Charles M. Schulz Museum, Stanford Design Thinking School, UC Berkeley, Spoke Art Gallery, and Gallery Nucleus, among others. She is a member of SCBWI, PEN America, Society of Illustrators, Writers Council (National Writing Project), and Art Brand Alliance.

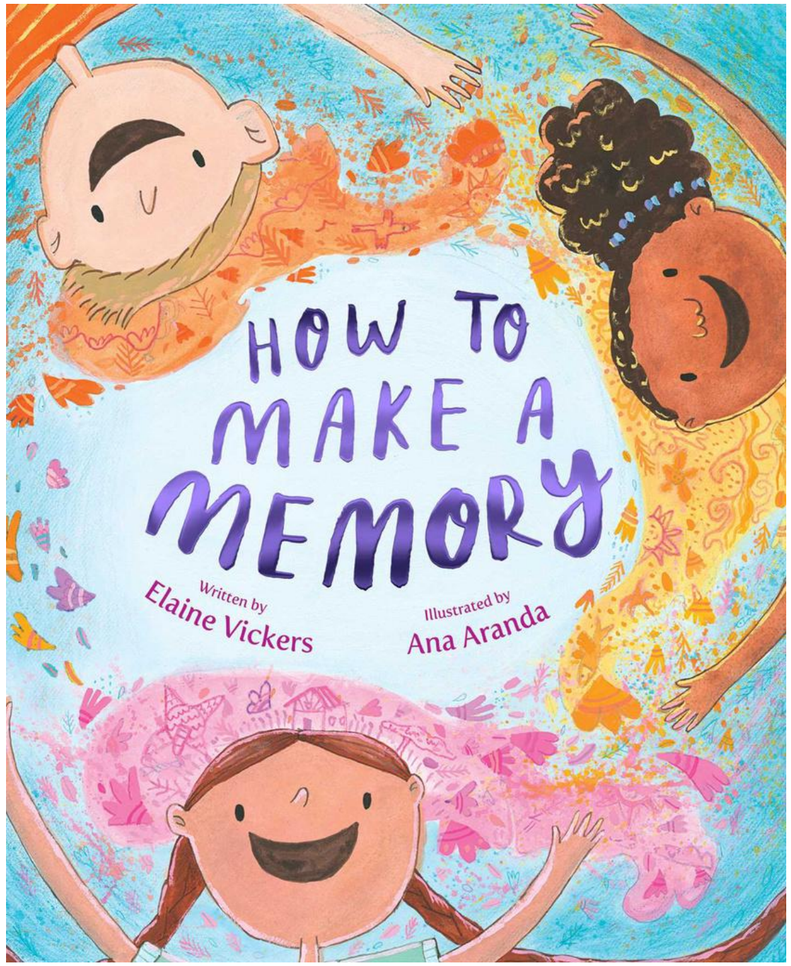
Ana's biggest inspirations are her childhood memories, the vibrant colors of Mexico, and music. Her work focuses on transforming the everyday into fantastical situations, and often include images from nature and whimsical creatures. She has illustrated picture books published in France, Italy and the US, including *The Chupacabra Ate the Candelabra* by Marc Tyler Nobleman (Nancy Paulsen Books), *Our Celebración!* by Susan Middleton Elya (Lee & Low), and *Moth & Butterfly: Ta Da!* by Dev Petty (Nancy Paulsen Books). *Our Day of the Dead Celebration*, her debut as author and illustrator, was released by Nancy Paulsen Books in fall 2022. Forthcoming books include *Eight-Nine-Tengineers!* (Disney-Hyperion), and *Axo,* written and illustrated by Ana (Nancy Paulsen Books).



At first, it is almost like before,
though now they drink sweet
nectar instead of chewing leaves.
And look! They can fly!
Moth and Butterfly,
together again.

Clarinetes, saxophone–
here comes music . . . **bón, bón, bón!**
Flautas, tubas, glockenspiel–
mothers smile and babies squeal.

ANA ARANDA



Think of Ana for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

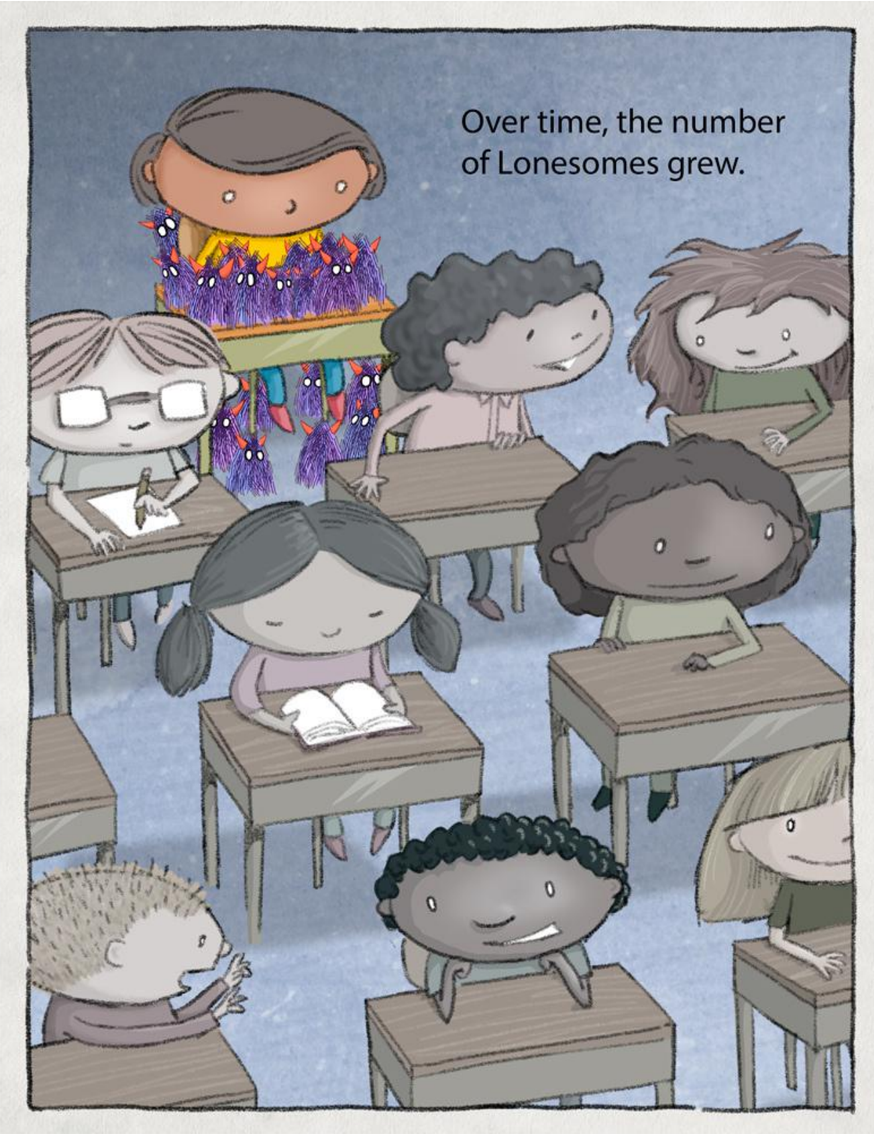
She is passionate about color, seeing Latinx culture represented in books, and whimsical elements.

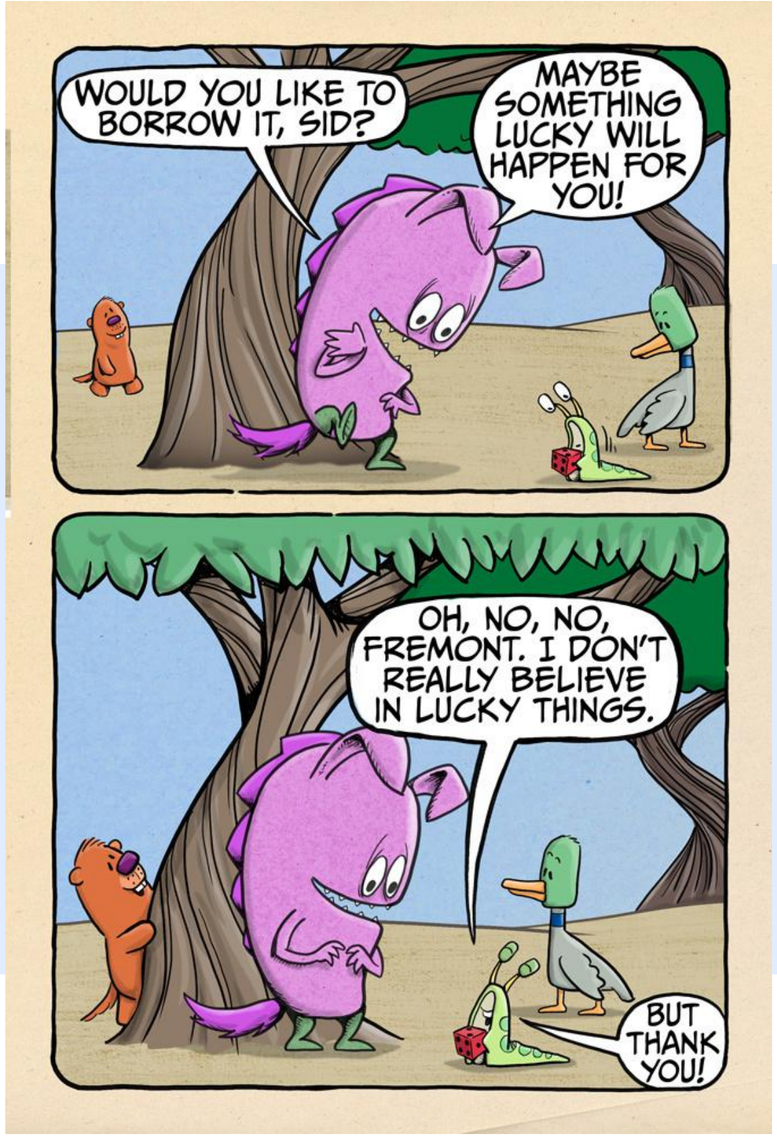
Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

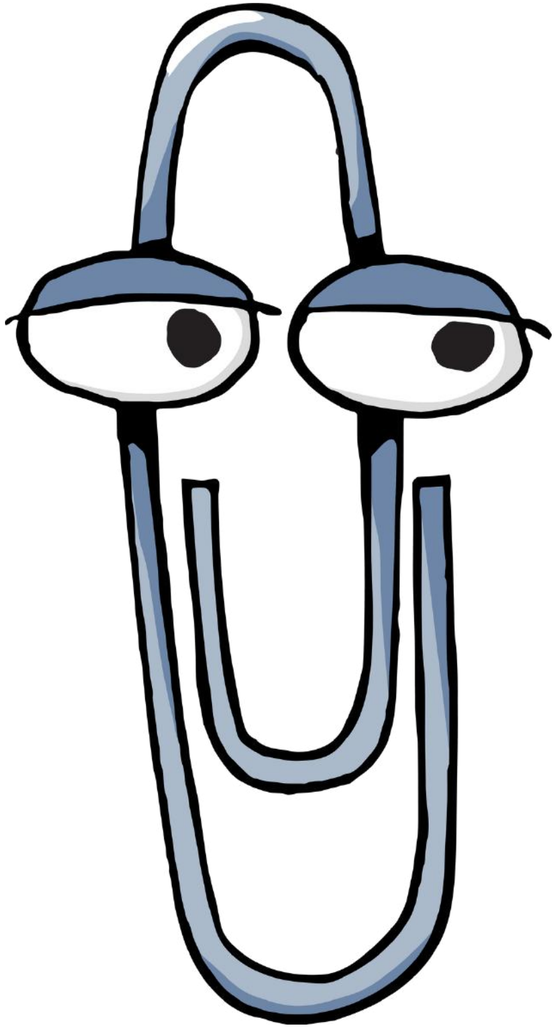
KEVAN ATTEBERRY

Kevan is a writer and illustrator of award-winning children's books including 2019 Crystal Kite Award winner, *Ghost Cat*. He ran a graphic design studio, a greeting card company, and had some dalliances in the dot.com nuttiness before picture books. His books also include *Bunnies!!!*, *Puddles!!!*, and *I Love You More than the Smell of Swamp Gas*. Authors he's illustrated for include Dori Hillestad Butler, Liz Garton Scanlon, Lola Schaefer, Charlotte Gunnufson, and Josie Bissett. Kevan is probably best known as the creator of Clippy the Paperclip, the Microsoft Office helper that at one time annoyed hundreds of millions of people on a daily basis. He takes an odd pleasure in that.

KEVAN ATTEBERRY







Think of Kevan for...

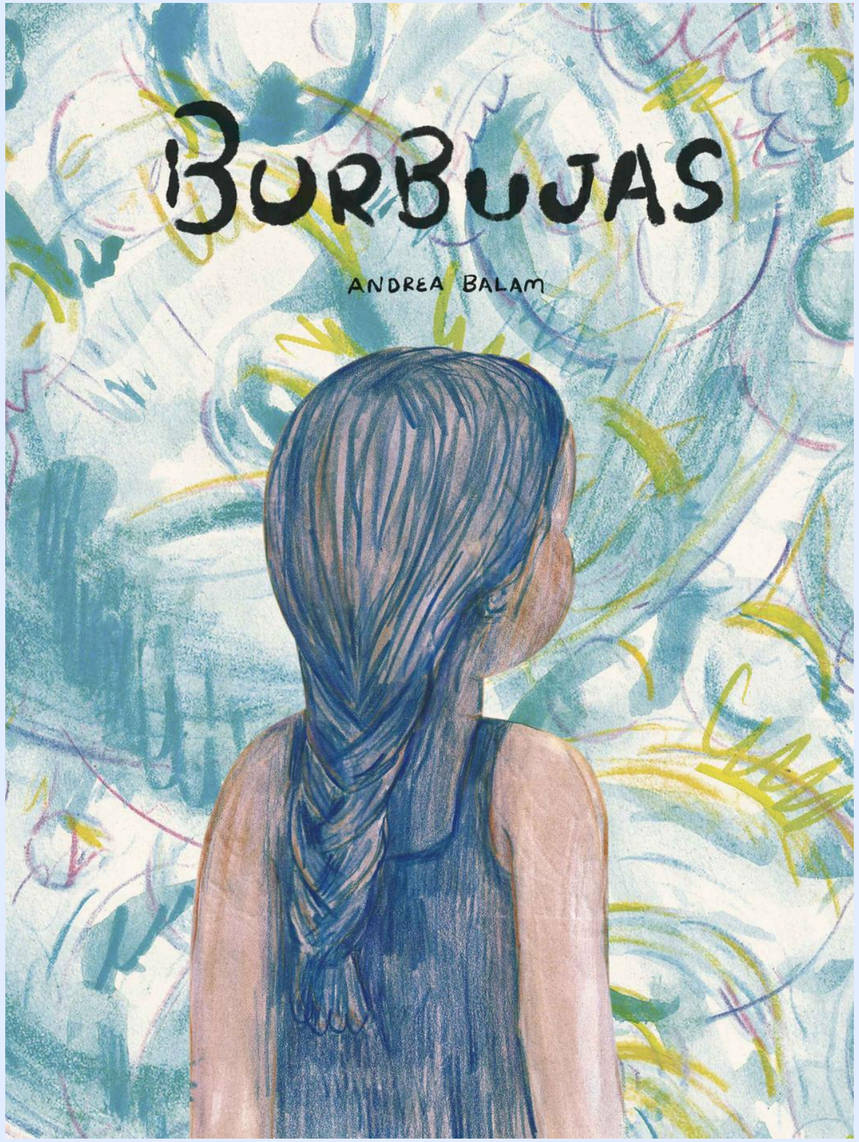
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and young adult.

Kevan likes the joyfully absurd. Waggish people, whimsical animals, wistful stories, wonderful monsters.

Representation: Erin Murphy
emurphy@aevitascreative.com

ANDREA BALAM

Andrea Balam (Mimusa Sensitiva) is a Mexican designer, illustrator and storyteller living in Strasbourg, France. In her work, she usually explores autobiographical themes, mental and emotional health, as illustration has been a second language to understand her mind as a neurodivergent person.



ANDREA BALAM

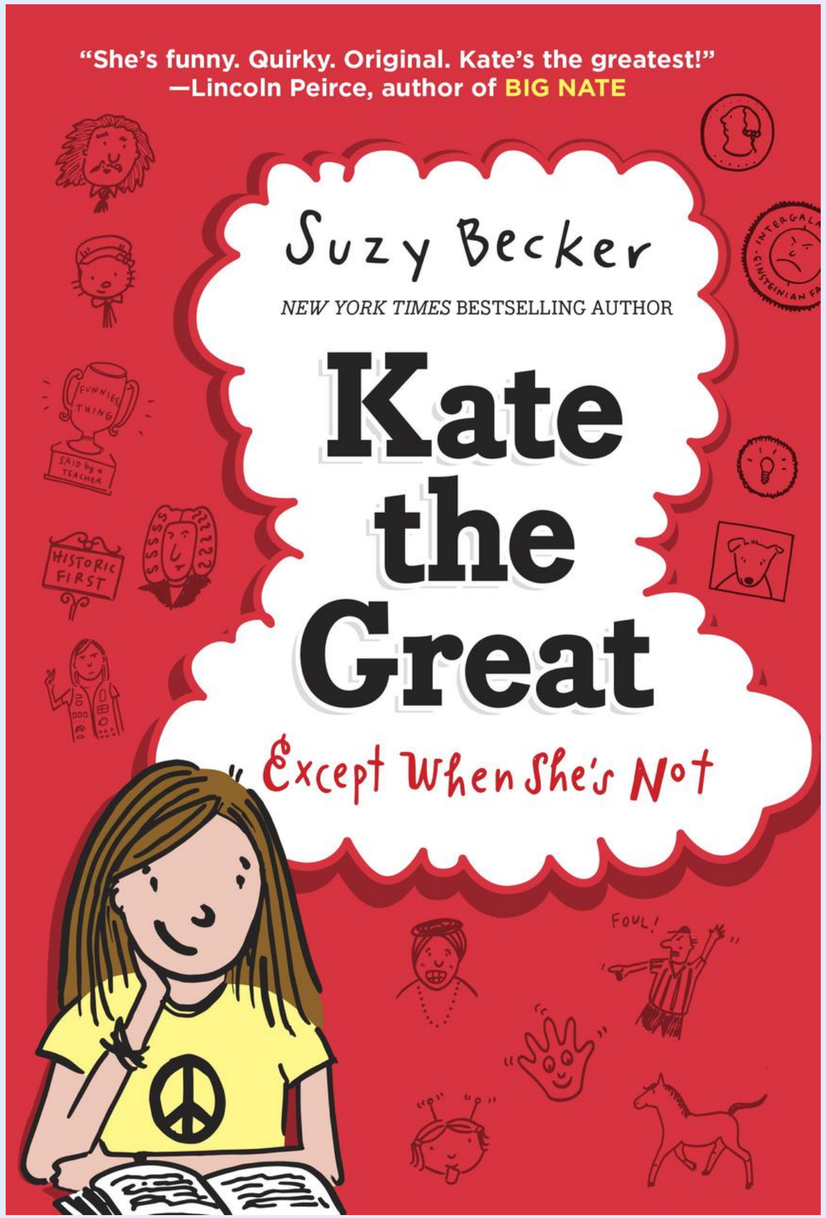
Think of Andrea for...

picture books, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, middle grade, chapter books, and young adult.

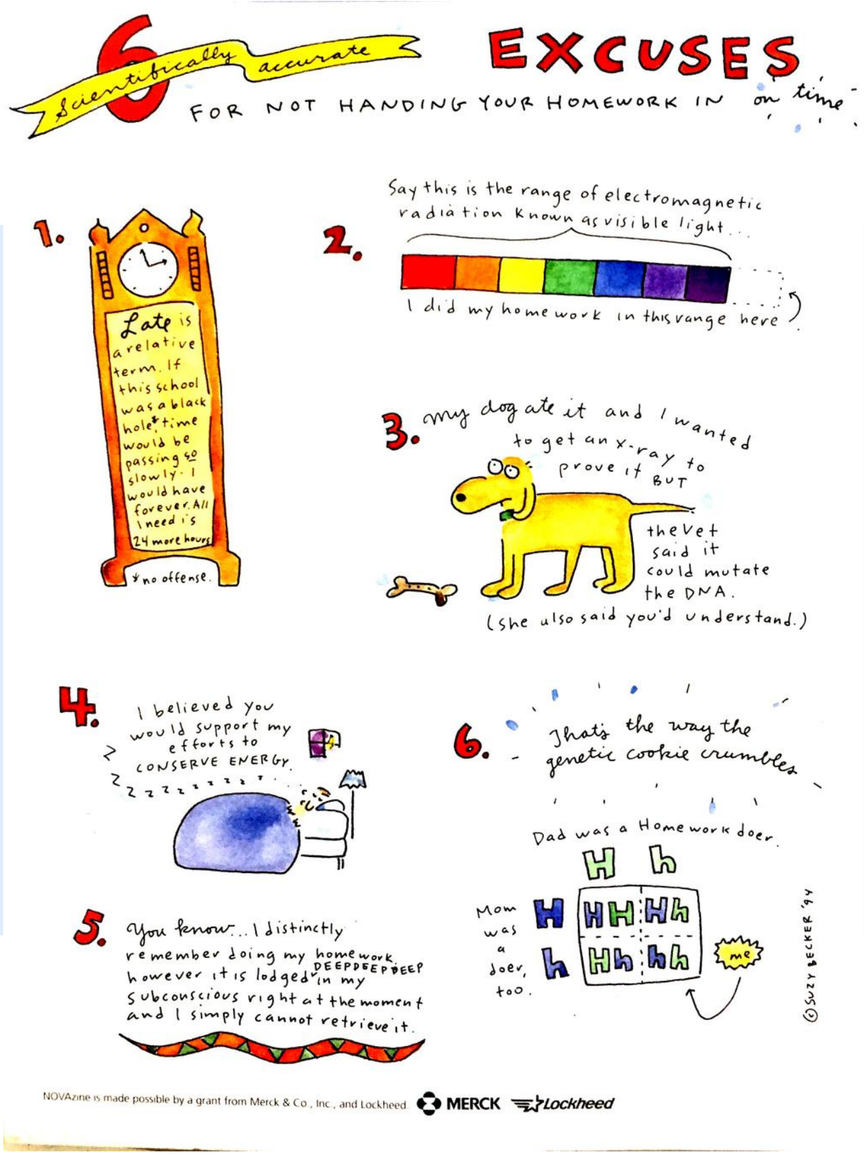
Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

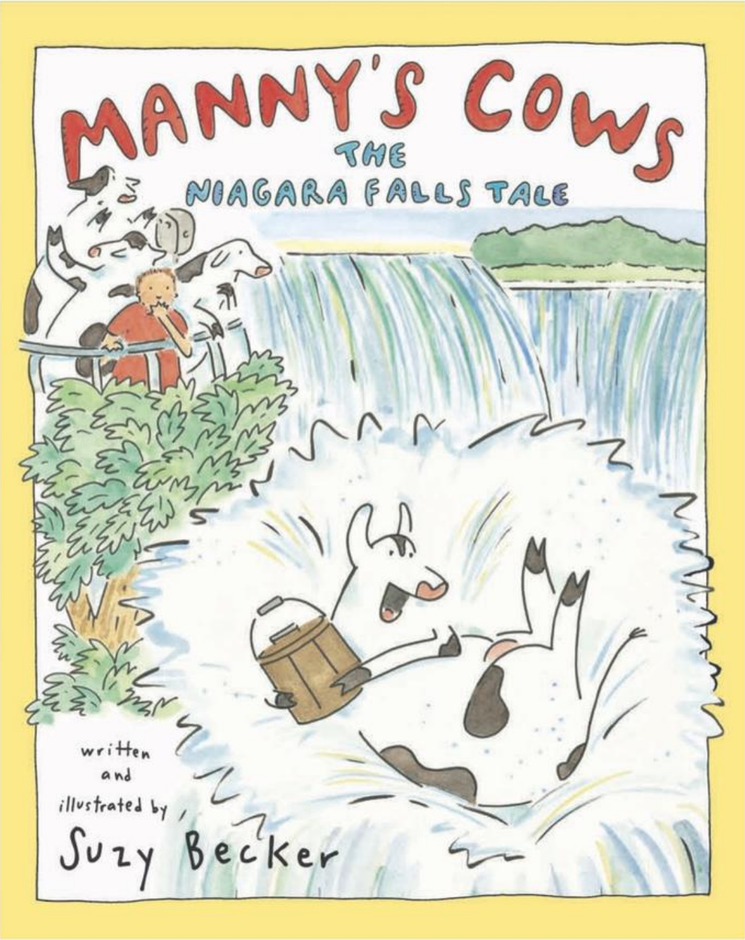
SUZY BECKER

Suzy Becker's first book, *All I Need to Know I Learned from My Cat* has sold over 2 million copies and been published in over 45 languages. (Just 7050 to go.) She has since written and illustrated ten other books for kids and grown ups. Her cartoons have appeared in *The New Yorker* and elsewhere. Suzy is also nationally recognized for her community service initiatives. She lives with her family and their well-meaning dogs in Massachusetts.



EXPECTANCY A to Z
COUNTDOWN CALENDAR
for PARENTS·TO·BE
24 alphabet cards help you count down the weeks until your little one arrives. Pop out each card to reveal a parent-to-be cartoon...
Cord for nursery garland or mobile included.
By Suzy Becker
Dd
Tt
Hh
Oo
Cc
Rr
CRAVINGS
Mm
Uu
Ff
Aa
Kk
Gg
In
Ww


6 Scientifically accurate EXCUSES
FOR NOT HANDING YOUR HOMEWORK IN on time
1.
Late is a relative term. If this school was a black hole time would be passing so slowly. I would have forever. All I need is 24 more hours.
*no offense.
2.
Say this is the range of electromagnetic radiation known as visible light...
I did my homework in this range here
3.
my dog ate it and I wanted to get an x-ray to prove it BUT the vet said it could mutate the DNA.
(she also said you'd understand.)
4.
I believed you would support my efforts to CONSERVE ENERGY.
5.
You know... I distinctly remember doing my homework, however it is lodged DEEPDEEPDEEP in my subconscious right at the moment and I simply cannot retrieve it.
6.
That's the way the genetic cookie crumbles.
Dad was a Homework doer.
Mom was a doer, too.
me
©SUZY BECKER '94
NOVAzine is made possible by a grant from Merck & Co., Inc., and Lockheed.
MERCK
Lockheed



Think of Suzy for...

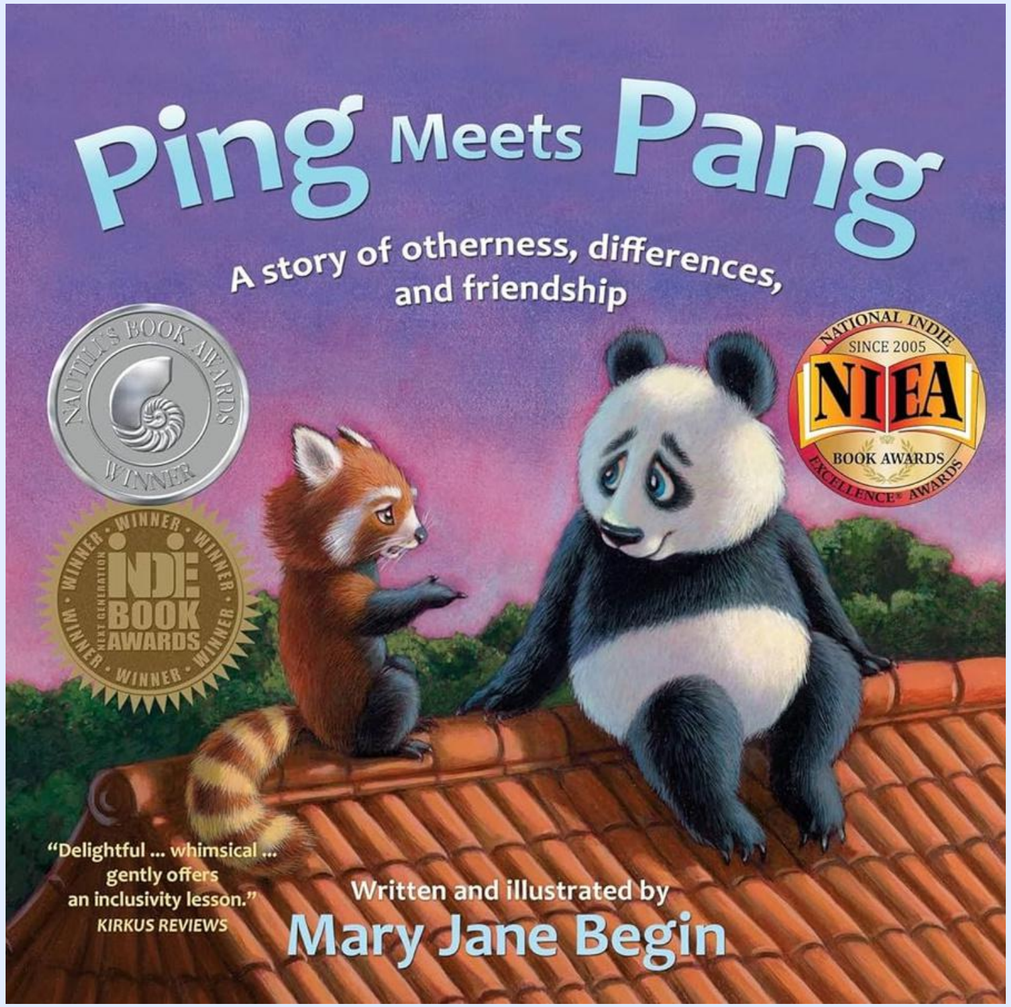
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, and adult editorial illustration.

Suzy Becker LOVES making complex material accessible and funny for audiences of any age. She was the back cover artist for NOVA's science magazine for kids, and she was grist.org (environmental digital news clearinghouse) staff cartoonist. She has written/illustrated the comic *The Uses of Comics in the Psychoanalytic Process* (forthcoming in IMAGO/Johns Hopkins University Press), and she is currently working on *Waiting Roommate*, a mammography waiting room edutainment booklet with Penn State University/Hershey Medical Center. Suzy is also the author/animator of *How Youth Learn*, a whiteboard animation with over 125,000 views (YouTube).

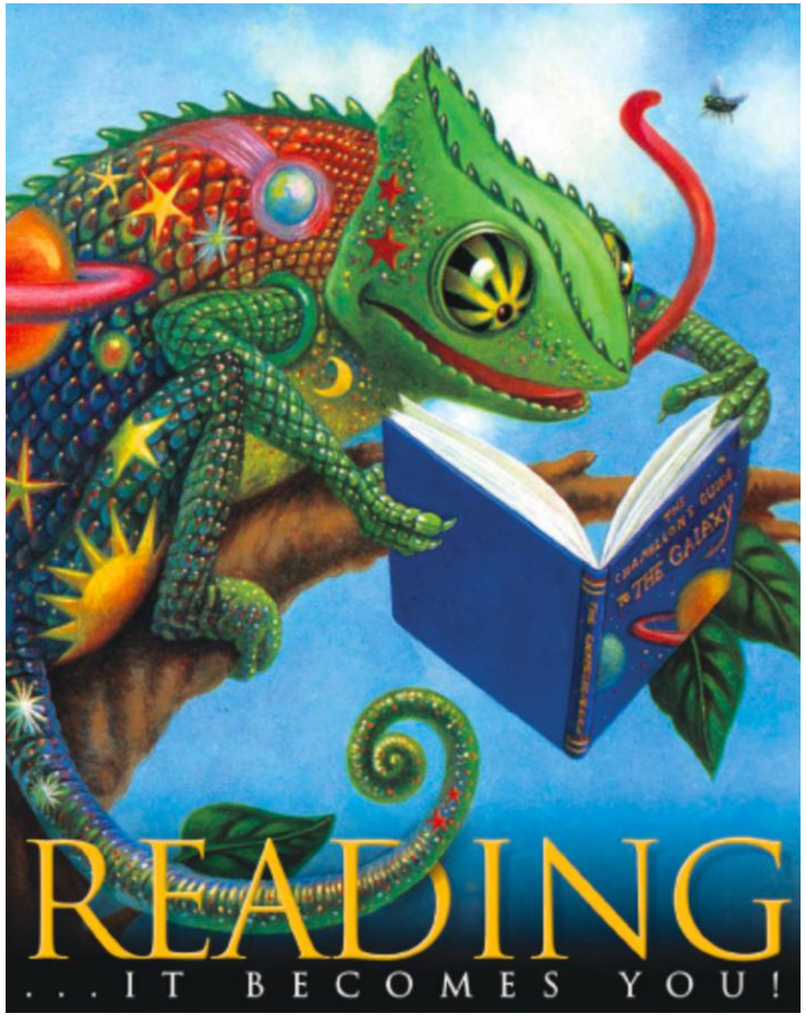
Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

MARY JANE BEGIN

Mary Jane Begin is an award-winning children's book author, fine art painter and illustrator. She is also an Adjunct Professor and Internship Advisor for the Illustration Department at Rhode Island School of Design, and a Visiting Associate Professor and the Chair of Illustration in the M.F.A for Children's Literature at Hollins University. Mary Jane lectures, creates workshops, exhibits her artwork and teaches around the globe as well as online courses for LinkedInLearning.com and CreativeLive.com. Mary Jane collaborated with Hasbro and Little, Brown and Company to create the picture books *Under the Sparkling Sea* and *Dragons on Dazzle Island* for Hasbro's My Little Pony franchise. She's worked with Celestial Seasonings, Mead Johnson and Disney, and has received multiple awards from the Society of Illustrators, multiple Awards of Excellence from Communications Arts, the Irma Simonton Black Award, and the Critici Erba Prize at the Bologna Book Fair. Mary Jane won the prestigious Bing Xin Children's Literature Award for her picture book, *Willow Buds, The Tale of Toad and Badger*. She has also won the Silver Nautilus Award, a National Indie Excellence Award, and an Indie Book Award for her lates book *Ping Meets Pang*. Her artwork has been exhibited throughout the country with one-woman shows at Books of Wonder Gallery in New York and Beverly Hills, at the National Museum of American Illustration in Newport, the RISD Museum, Society of Illustrators (NY), The DeCordova Museum, and Storyopolis in LA., and her latest solo exhibitions were at the Eleanor D. Wilson Museum at Hollins University and the Design Society in Shenzhen, China.



MARY JANE BEGIN



Think of Mary Jane for...

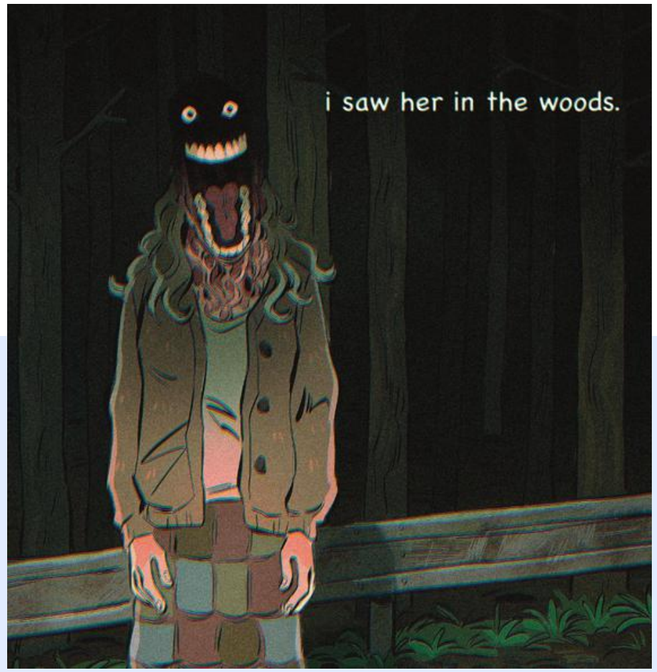
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, and animation.

Representation: Rick Richter
rrichter@aevitascreative.com

AL BERG

Al Berg is a Canadian comic artist and animator who specializes in horror. Most known for his webcomic *After Dark*. When he isn't scaring himself silly while drawing, he can be found reading classical fiction or hiking in the woods.

AL BERG


i saw her in the woods.

KNOCK KNOCK
KIERAN, ARE YOU FEELING OKAY?

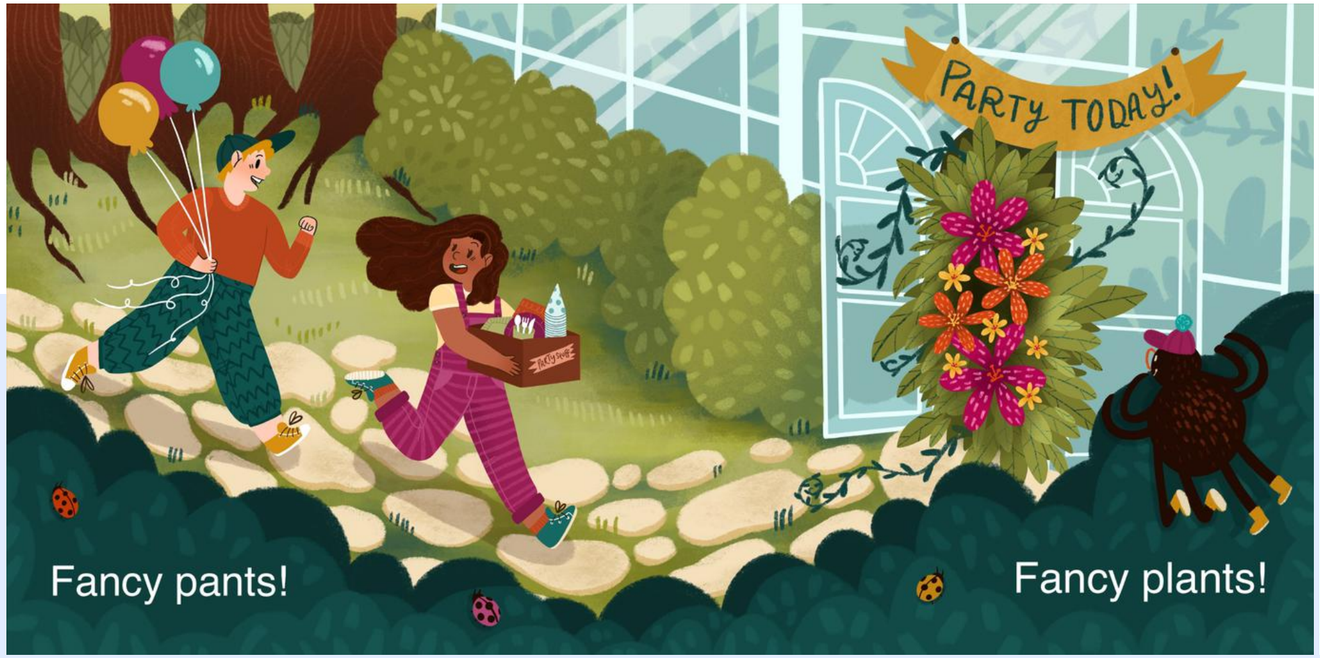
Think of AI for...

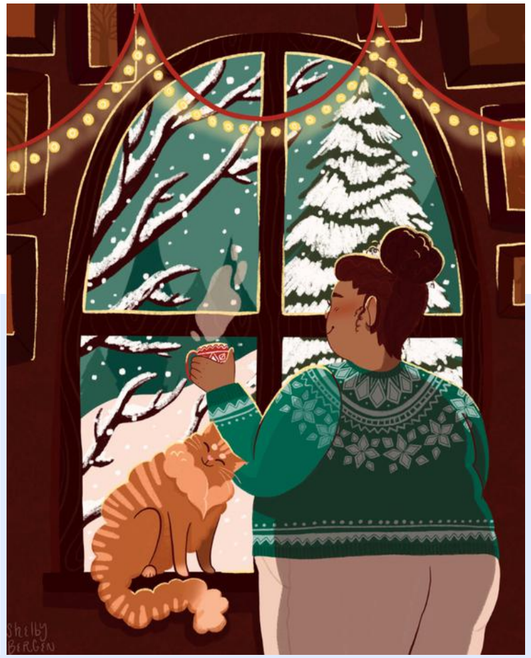
graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, animation, middle grade, interior art, and horror.

Representation: Maeve MacLysaght
mmaclysaght@aevitascreative.com

SHELBY BERGEN

Shelby is an illustrator and graduate from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, currently living in the Twin Cities metro area. She loves bringing bright colors, patterns, and silly little details into her work. As a fat artist, Shelby often depicts underrepresented bodies in fun and empowering ways in order to help change the narrative around them. Her work has been featured both online and in print, including illustration for the *Fat Folks Tarot Project; The (Other) F Word: A Celebration of the Fat and Fierce* (Amulet and Abrams); and the periodic *Fat Craft*, a zine she edits with a fellow artist. She can often be found posting on Instagram at @shelby.bergen and playing with her three cats: Bacon, Pancake and Eggs Benedict.





SHELBY BERGEN

Think of Shelby for...

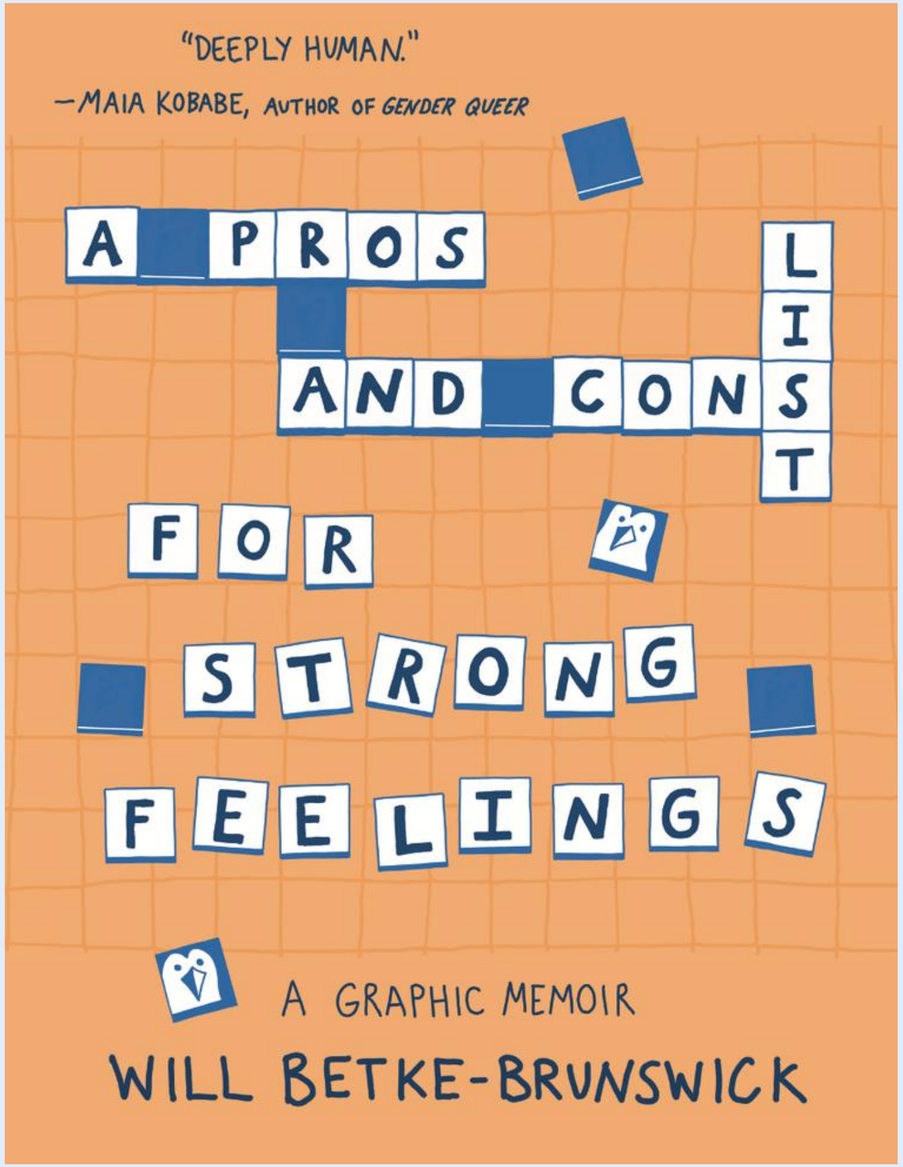
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

As a fat artist, Shelby is passionate about depicting underrepresented bodies in fun and empowering ways. She is drawn to work with a sense of humor and purpose, and she loves bugs, kittens, and all things cozy and magical.

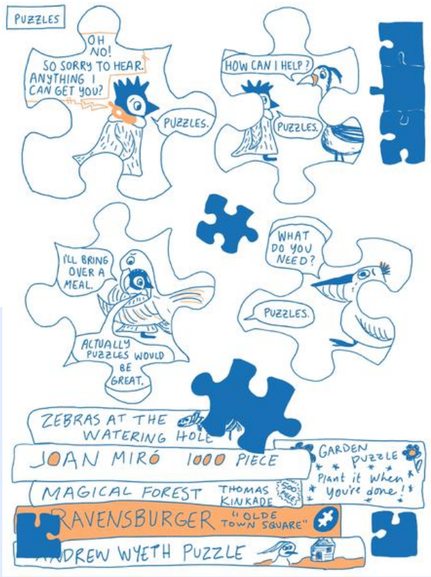
Representation: Maggie Cooper
mcooper@aevitascreative.com

WILL BETKE-BRUNSWICK

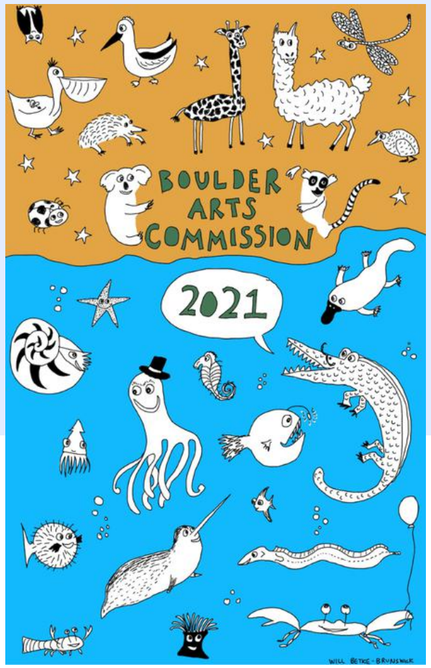
Will Betke-Brunswick is a cartoonist and graduate from the California College of the Arts MFA in Comics program. Will's nonfiction comics have been published online and in print, including in INTO, the trans anthology *How to Wait: An Anthology of Transition*, and the second edition of *Trans Bodies, Trans Selves*. Will's graphic memoir, *A Pros and Cons List for Strong Feelings* (Tin House 2022) was a finalist for the 2023 Lambda Literary Award for LGBTQ+ Comics, the 2023 Colorado Book Award for Creative Nonfiction, and the 2023 High Plains First Book Award. Will shares work on Instagram @transboycomics.

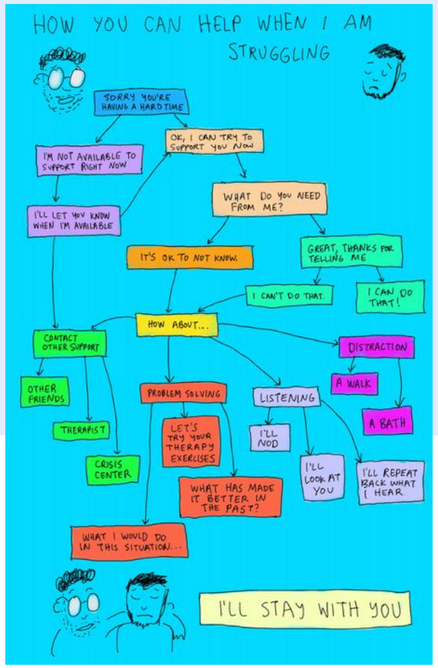


PICTURE DAY, 9 YEARS OLD
IT'S PICTURE DAY. WILL YOU WRITE ME A NOTE AGAIN?
SURE!
NO HATS!
I HAVE A NOTE FROM MY MOM.


PUZZLES
OH NO! SO SORRY TO HEAR. ANYTHING I CAN GET YOU?
PUZZLES.
HOW CAN I HELP?
PUZZLES.
I'LL BRING OVER A MEAL.
ACTUALLY PUZZLES WOULD BE GREAT.
WHAT DO YOU NEED?
PUZZLES.
ZEBRAS AT THE WATERING HOLE
JOAN MIRÓ 1000 PIECE
GARDEN PUZZLE Plant it when you're done!
MAGICAL FOREST THOMAS KINKADE
RAVENSBURGER "OLDE TOWN SQUARE"
ANDREW WYETH PUZZLE

I DON'T WANT A WIG OR SCARF, JUST SHORT AND TIDY IS FINE.
-Beep-
AND THAT'S MY PORTABLE CHEMO PACK. WE'VE NAMED HIM BABY IGOR.
-Beep-
ALL DONE.
-Beep-


BOULDER ARTS COMMISSION
2021
WILL BETKE-BRUNSWICK


HOW YOU CAN HELP WHEN I AM STRUGGLING
SORRY YOU'RE HAVING A HARD TIME
OK, I CAN TRY TO SUPPORT YOU NOW
I'M NOT AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT RIGHT NOW
I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN I'M AVAILABLE
WHAT DO YOU NEED FROM ME?
IT'S OK TO NOT KNOW.
GREAT, THANKS FOR TELLING ME
I CAN'T DO THAT.
I CAN DO THAT!
HOW ABOUT...
CONTACT OTHER SUPPORT
OTHER FRIENDS
THERAPIST
CRISIS CENTER
PROBLEM SOLVING
LET'S TRY YOUR THERAPY EXERCISES
WHAT HAS MADE IT BETTER IN THE PAST?
WHAT I WOULD DO IN THIS SITUATION...
LISTENING
I'LL NOD
I'LL LOOK AT YOU
I'LL REPEAT BACK WHAT I HEAR.
DISTRACTION
A WALK
A BATH
I'LL STAY WITH YOU

Think of Will for...

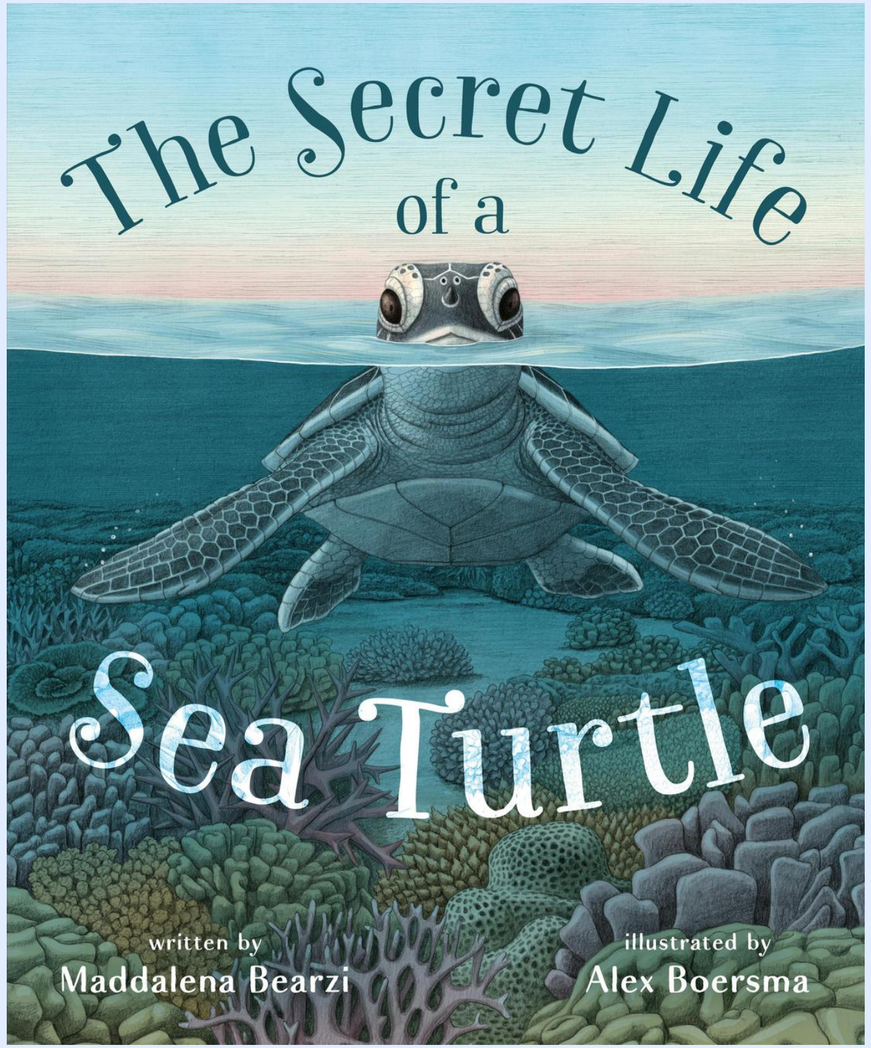
comics, graphic novels, editorial illustrations, and chapter books.

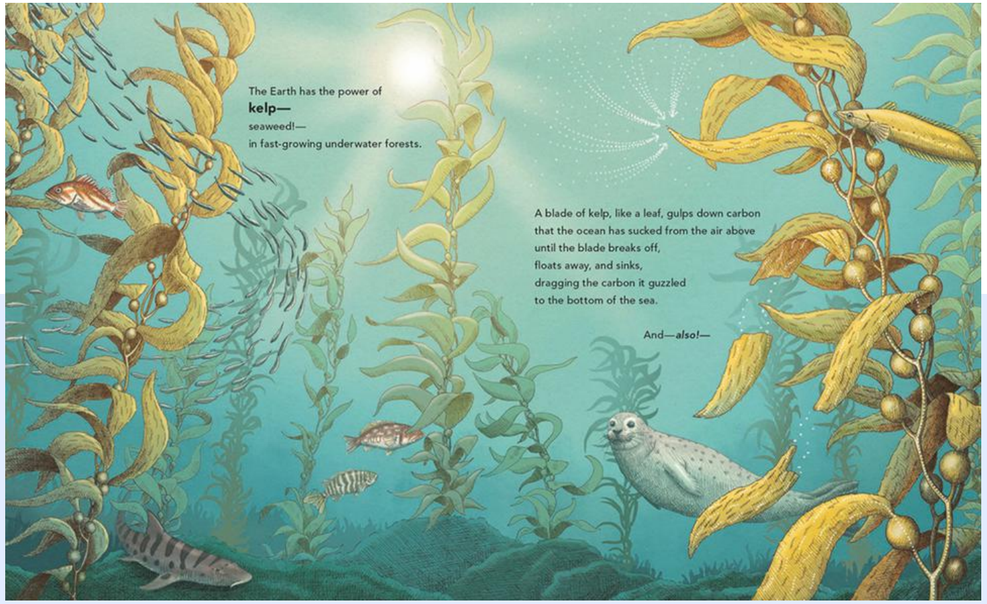
They love line drawings, animals, monsters, and graphs.

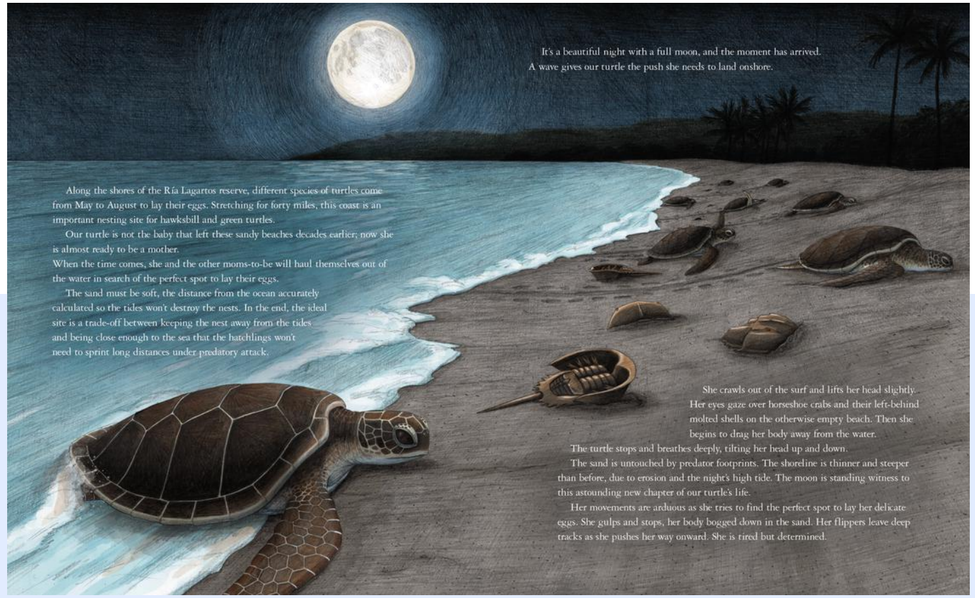
Representation: Maggie Cooper
mcooper@aevitascreative.com

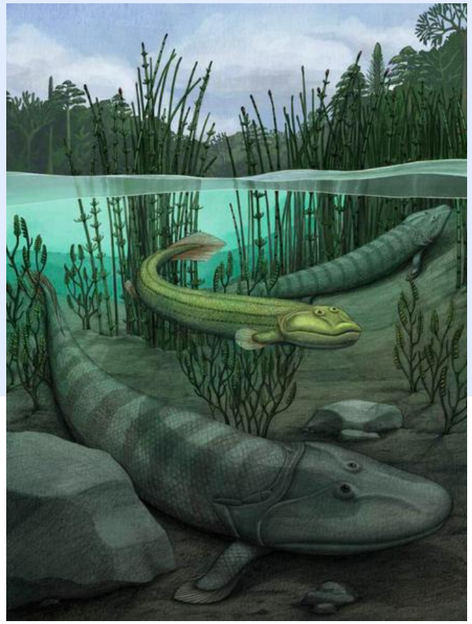
ALEX BOERSMA

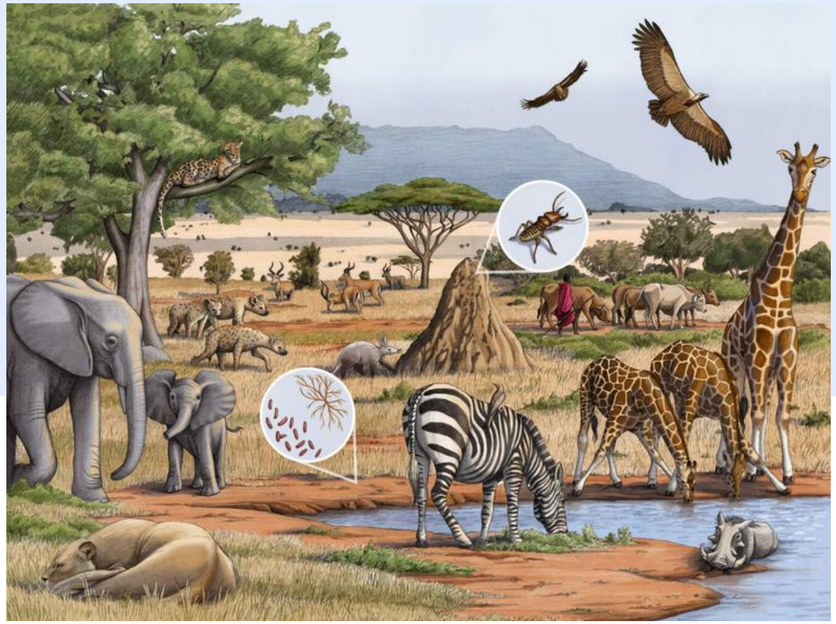
Alex Boersma is an award-winning scientific illustrator living in Chicago. Her work runs the gamut of science media, from figures for scientific journals to children's book illustrations. Her clients have included the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Harvard University, and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, and her work can be found in such publications as *Nature*, *National Geographic*, and *High Country News*. She is the illustrator and co-author of *The Whale Who Swam Through Time* (Roaring Brook Press, 2022), and the illustrator of *Change is in the Air*, written by Debbie Levy (Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2024). Most recently, she illustrated *The Secret Life of A Sea Turtle* by Maddalena Bearzi (Roaring Brook Press, 2025).











ALEX BOERSMA

Think of Alex for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

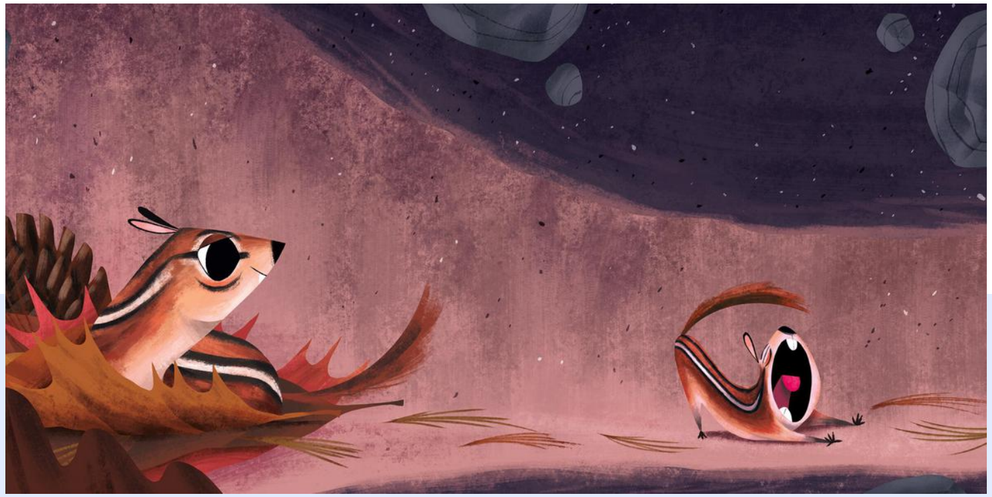
She is drawn to projects about the natural world that are rooted in science, with a particular fondness for animals and ecology.

Representation: Bridget Wagner Matzie
bmatzie@aevitascreative.com

TOM BOOTH

Tom Booth has illustrated several acclaimed picture books, including *Don't Blink!* and *This Is Christmas*, which he also wrote. He made his earliest illustrations—sometimes on his parents' antique kitchen table—growing up in Pennsylvania. Now living in Portland, Maine, he is currently at work on several children's books on a table all his own.

TOM BOOTH



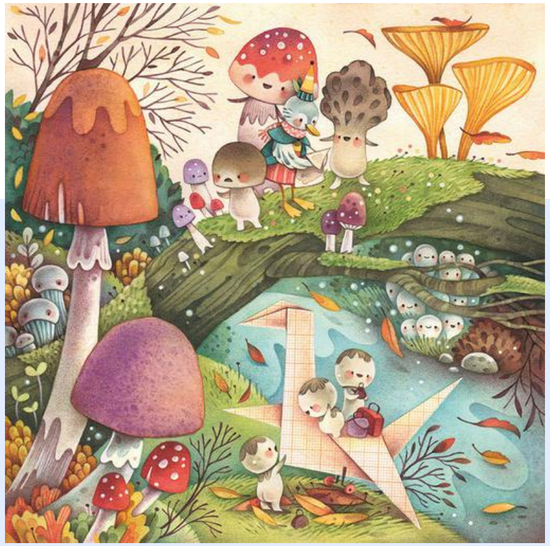
Think of Tom for...

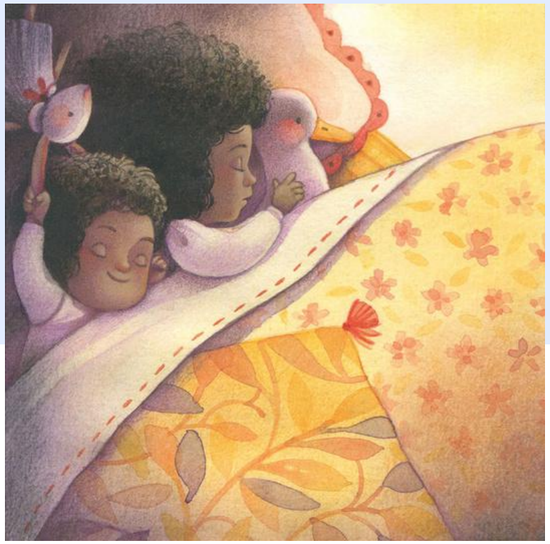
picture books, middle grade, book covers, animation, and video game art.

Representation: Rick Richter
rrichter@aevitascreative.com

GAIA BORDICCHIA

Gaia Bordicchia is a graduate of the IED Institute of Art & Design and has illustrated numerous children's books, including *The Amazing Animal Atlas* by Nick Crumpton. She's based in northern Italy and is currently working on her author-illustrator debut, *Flight from Robot Island*, with Clarion Books, an imprint of Harper Collins.





GAIA BORDICCHIA

Think of Gaia for...

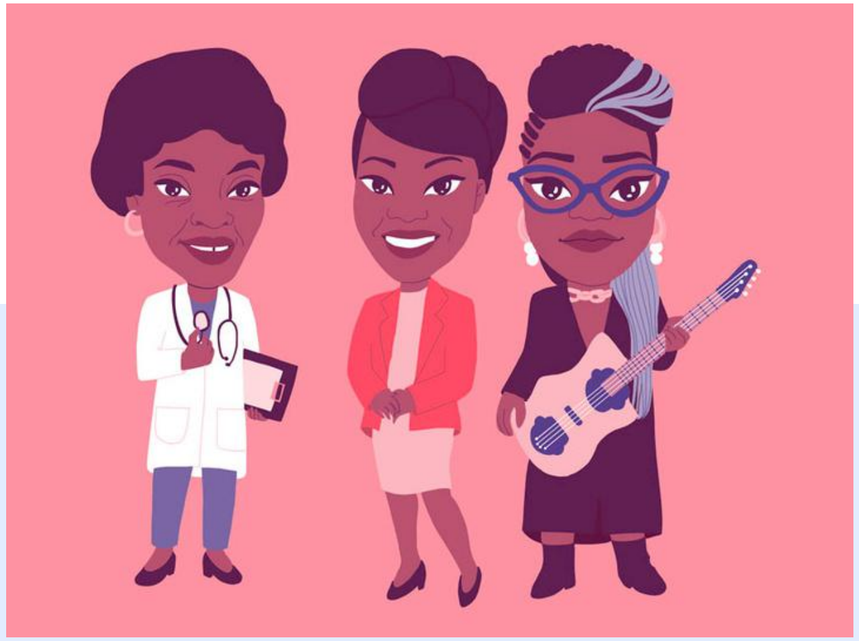
picture books, middle grade, book covers, board books, and chapter books.

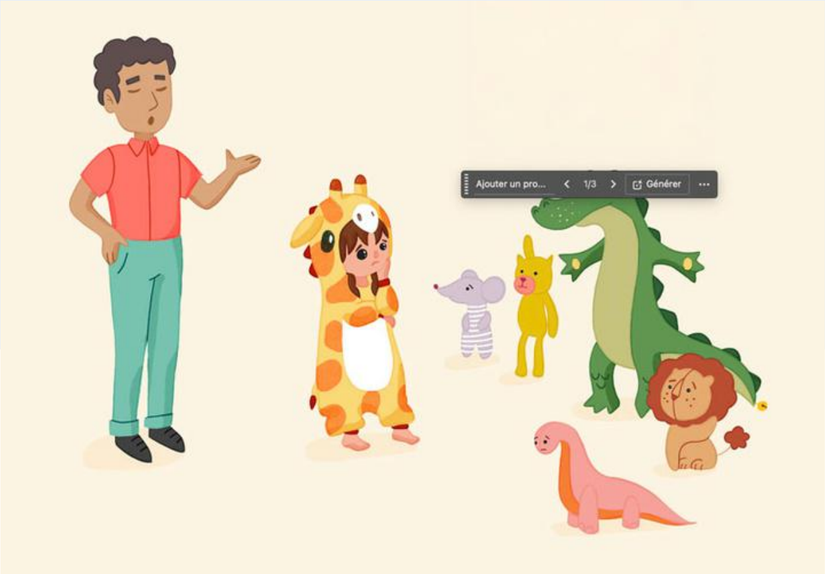
Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

MARJORIE BOURGOIN

The author of numerous creative leisure books, Marjorie is also an art director, illustrator and gives training courses. A member of the Diveka association, which promotes diversity in children's cultural productions, in 2023 she published *Les Puissantes, 26 femmes noires francophones qui ont fait, font ou feront l'histoire*, a project born on Instagram and carried out with Diaratou Kébé. She is in the process of writing her first book for youths that will be published in 2026 with Poulpe Fictions.

MARJORIE BOURGOIN





Think of Marjorie for...

picture books, chapter books, board books, middle grade, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and young adult.

Representation: Julie Finidori
jfinidori@aevitascreative.com

FAITH CAPALIA

Faith Capalia is an illustrator, author, and teacher based in Portland, OR. She received a BFA in illustration from the Pacific Northwest College of Art with an emphasis in picture book illustration. Faith's debut book *Melvina Whitmoore (More or Less a Horror Story)* (HarperCollins, 2023) was praised for its distinctive illustrations and SEL themes. Her work emphasizes color, shape, and texture with influence from midcentury picture books and art history, and is created both digitally and traditionally, using gouache and colored pencil.

She has a passion for scary stories, fantasy, and making jokes. Faith holds a philosophy of supporting children in the exploration of all things weird, creative, and fantastical and uses her work in publishing and teaching to facilitate that exploration. Faith spends her days teaching preschool art and reading picture books, and spends her evenings relaxing with her cats, Broccoli and Wormy.

FAITH CAPALIA

Think of Faith for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, and book covers.

Faith loves working on humor, fantasy, folklore, and horror! She is very interested in anything funny or fantastical.

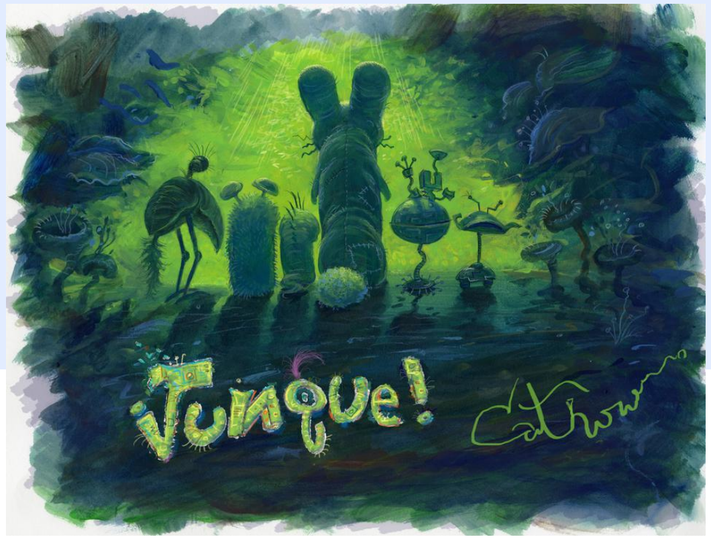
Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

DAVID CATROW

David Catrow is the illustrator or author of over 100 books, including the wildly successful, *Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon* series and the Max Spaniel series for Scholastic. Many of Mr. Catrow's books are best sellers, including *The New York Times* listed *I Ain't Gonna Paint* and *I Like Myself*.

In addition to publishing he is also a production designer having worked on such films as *Horton Hears A Who*, *Despicible Me*, and *Stuart Little*, as well as early development work on the live action movie *Enchanted*.

David Catrow is a self-taught artist. Having originally received his education as a biologist, he has worked as a medical illustrator and later as a syndicated editorial cartoonist where his cartoons were syndicated to over 1,000 daily newspapers across the US and Canada.


Junque!

Think of David for...

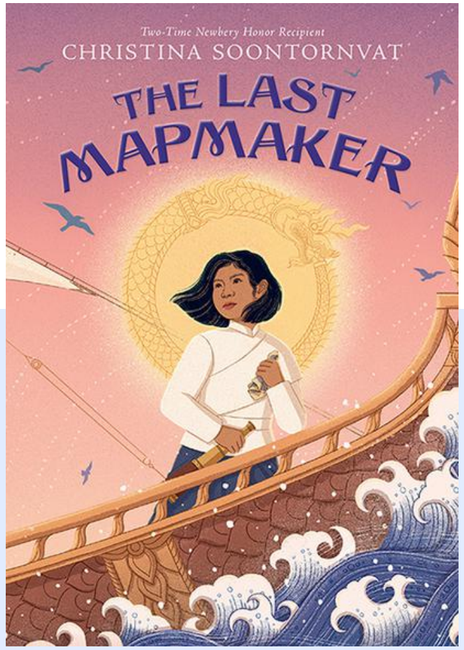
book covers, graphic novels, chapter books, picture books, animation, and adult editorial illustration.

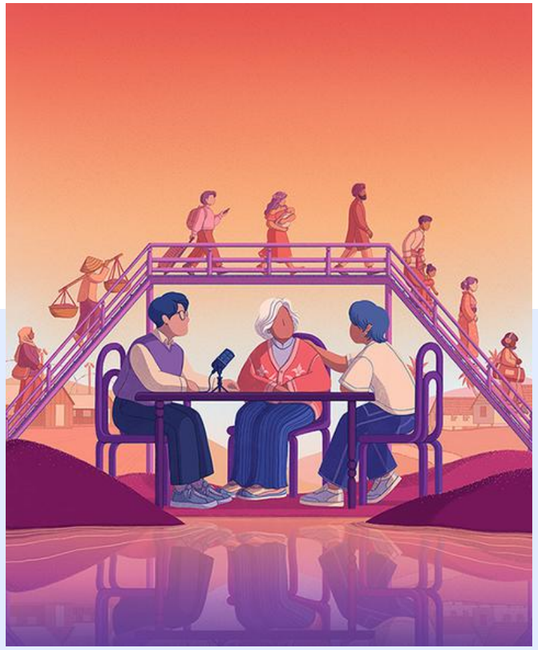
David is especially interested in stories that are both character driven but also have elements of the dark and weird, as evidenced by two of his favorite books, *Cinderella Skeleton* and *Plantzilla*. Sci-fi is of a particular interest of his which he'd love to explore further.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

CHRISTINA CHUNG

Christina Chung (she/they) is a Taiwanese Hongkonger American illustrator and comic artist, raised between Seattle and Singapore, and is currently based in Brooklyn, New York. She received her BFA in Illustration from Pratt Institute and has previously taught at the University of the Arts. Her work focuses on intricacies, color and symbolism, drawing inspiration from the natural world and powerful storytelling.





CHRISTINA CHUNG

Think of Christina for...

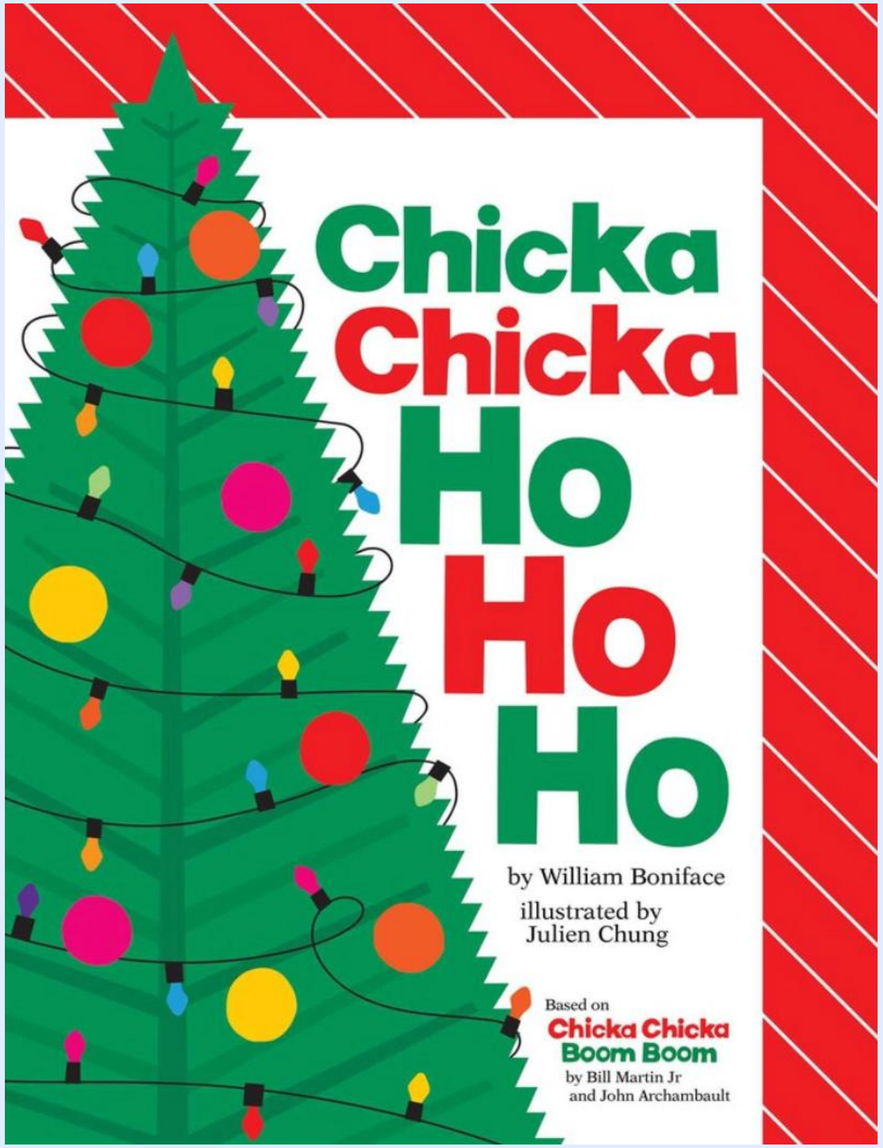
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, and young adult.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

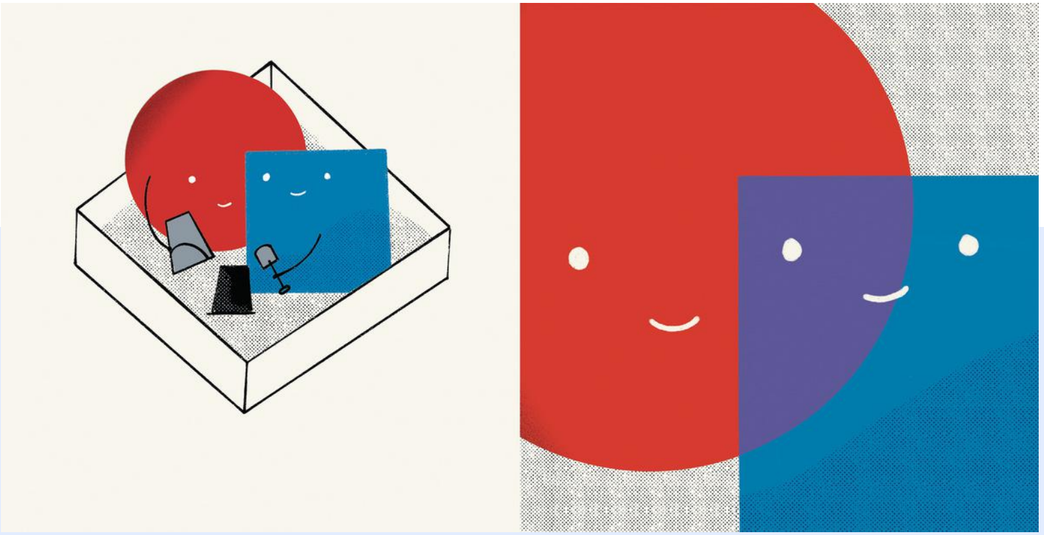
JULIEN CHUNG

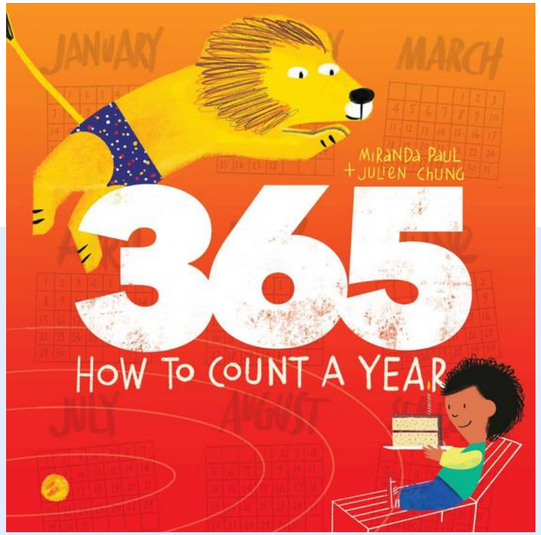
Julien Chung is an award-winning illustrator of thought-provoking picture books for kids. He is inspired by poster art, bright colors, and simple shapes. For many years, he was a graphic designer at a major metropolitan newspaper. Now with 12 published books and several more in the works, he has earned accolades for his illustrations from 3x3 magazine, the American Society of Illustrators, the SOI, the World Illustration Awards, Applied Arts, the Nami Concours and the Bologna Children's Book Fair.

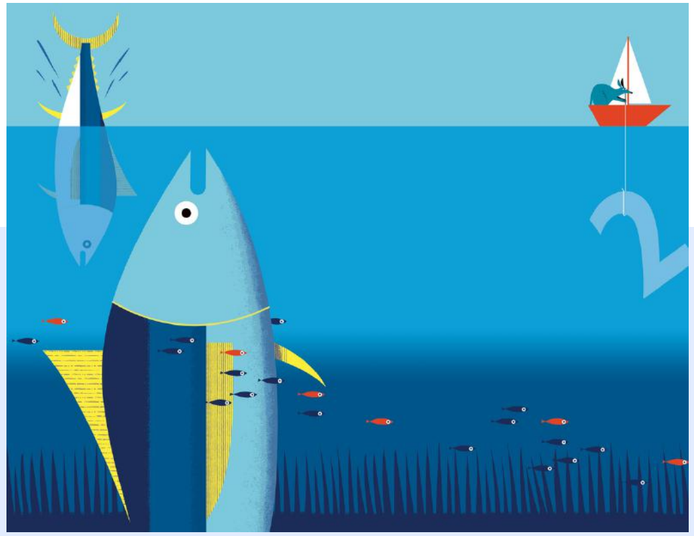
With every book, Julien looks for the WOW moment: the moment that creates a sense of wonder, adds a deeper layer of meaning to the story, and gives the reader something to take away and think about afterwards. Fun is important too, and it presents itself in many ways. It might be through a joke, a twist, a reoccurring symbol or a punchline. Other things to tell you about Julien? He loves airports, chocolate, and illustrated maps. He collects enamel pins and toy London double-decker buses. He still believes in Santa Claus. Julien Chung lives with his wife in an empty nest so high up they sometimes see a falcon or two fly by as they sip their morning coffee. On a clear day, they can see the far-off skyscrapers of downtown Montreal. For more please visit: www.julienchung.com

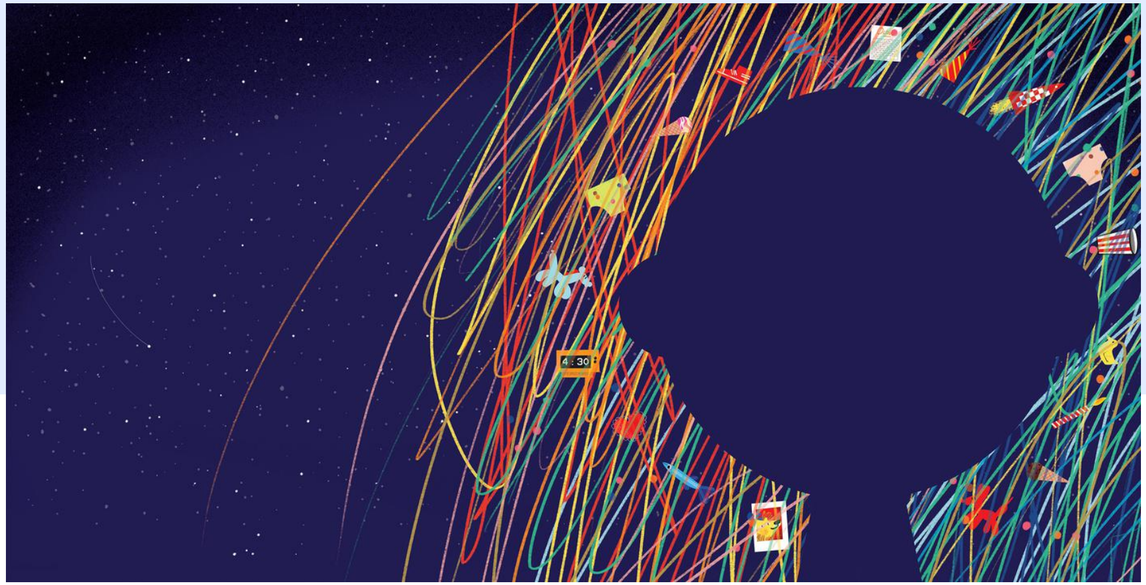


JULIEN CHUNG









Think of Julien for...

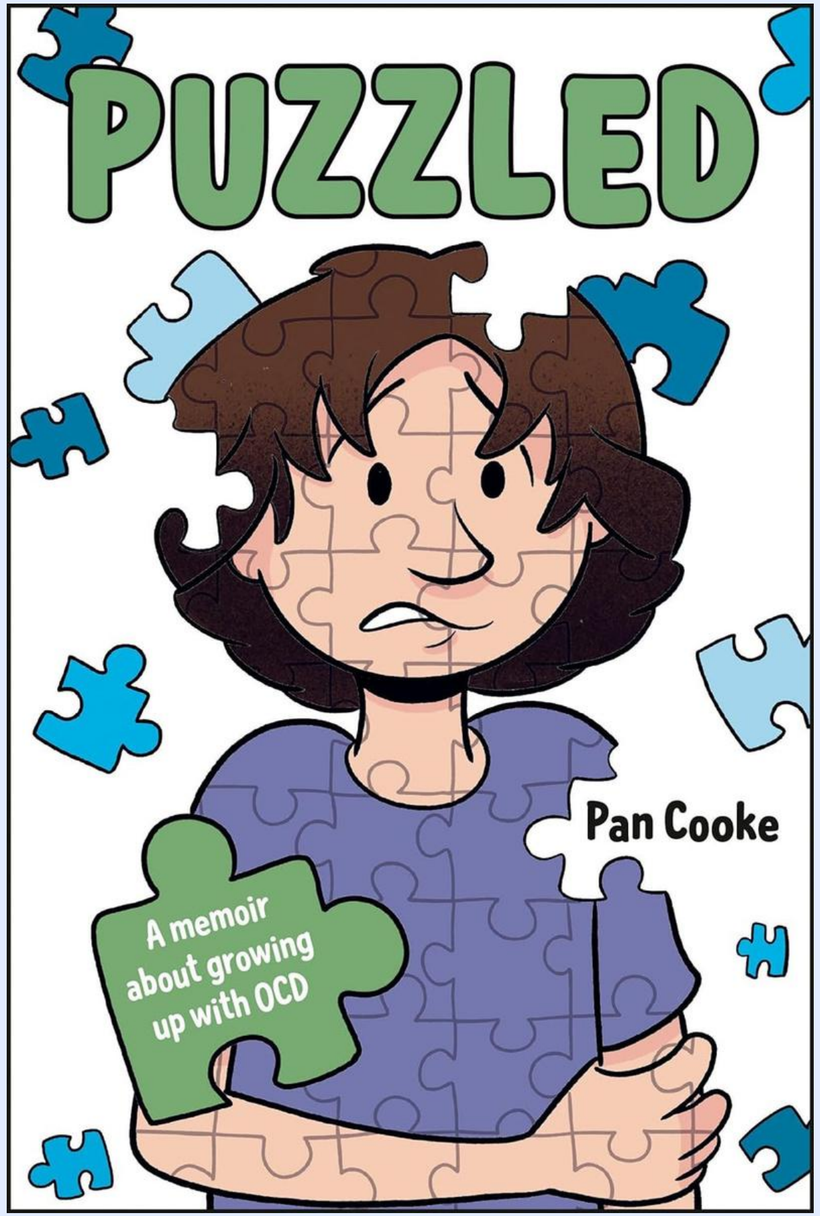
picture books.

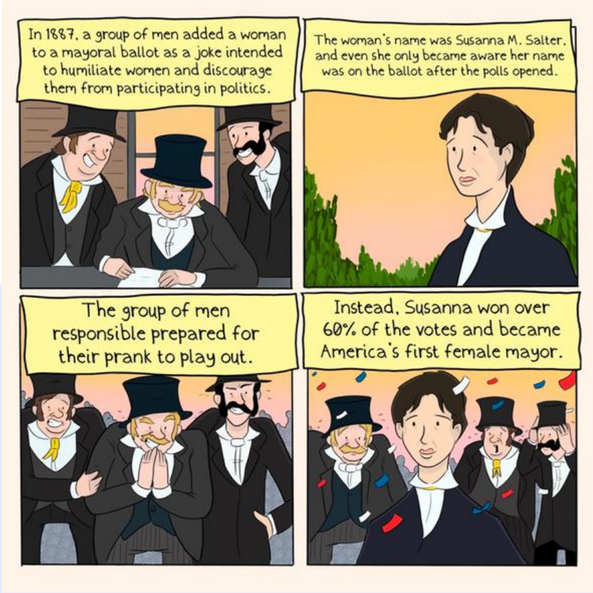
Julien is especially interested in concept-driven fiction and nonfiction picture books that feature emotions and/or humor. Julien's style is bold, bright, and graphic with a vintage vibe, and he loves drawing quirky animals.

Representation: Rubin Pfeffer, Amy Thrall Flynn
rpfeffer@aevitascreative.com, aflynn@aevitascreative.com

PAN COOKE

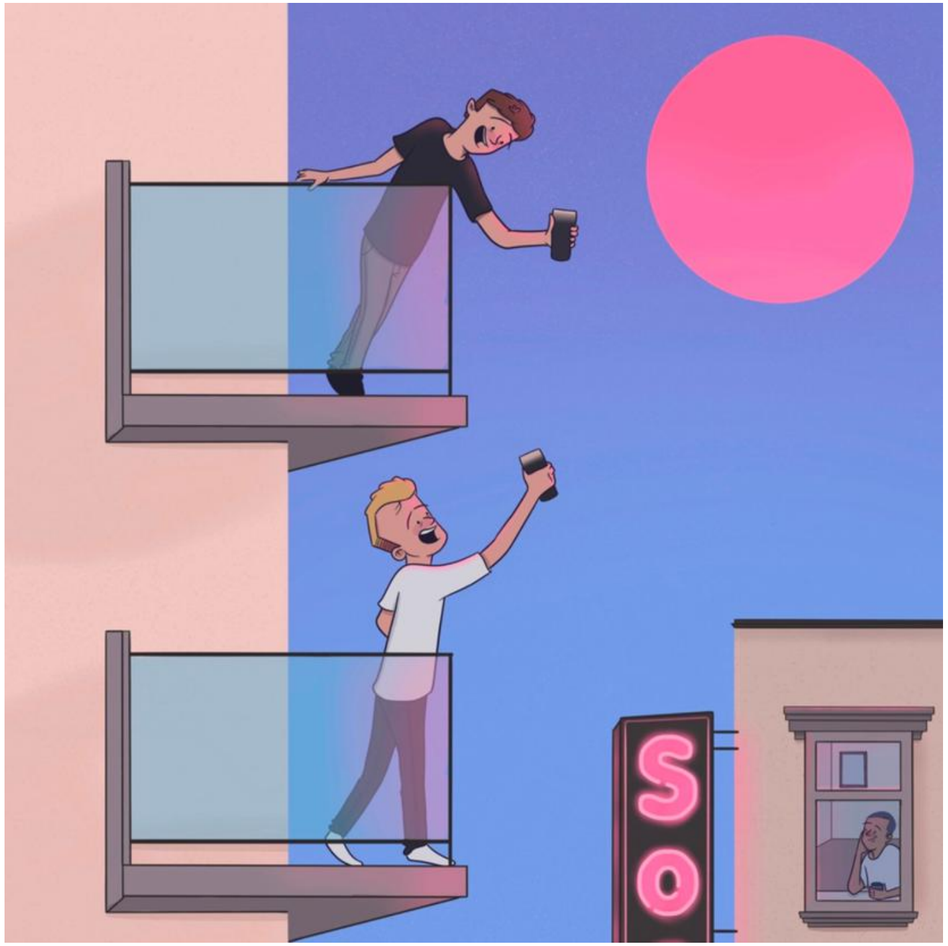
Pan Cooke is a writer and illustrator from Dublin, Ireland. He is best known for his social justice comics and illustrations, which have been widely shared across social media and focus on topics from police violence to mental health awareness. He has worked alongside Amnesty International on several campaigns and frequently collaborates with the activist group Campaign Zero. Pan combines his love of graphic storytelling with a passion for education and advocacy. His debut graphic memoir *Puzzled*, which illustrates his experiences growing up with OCD, was published in 2024.




In 1887, a group of men added a woman to a mayoral ballot as a joke intended to humiliate women and discourage them from participating in politics.
The woman's name was Susanna M. Salter, and even she only became aware her name was on the ballot after the polls opened.
The group of men responsible prepared for their prank to play out.
Instead, Susanna won over 60% of the votes and became America's first female mayor.

In 1959, the police were called to a segregated library when a 9-year-old boy refused to leave without being allowed to check out his books.
The boy, Ronald McNair, went on to get a PhD in physics from MIT.
He later became an astronaut and the second African American to fly in space.
In 1986, he tragically lost his life in the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster.
Today, the building that housed the library, which refused to lend him the books, is named after him.
McNAIR

PAN COOKE



Think of Pan for...

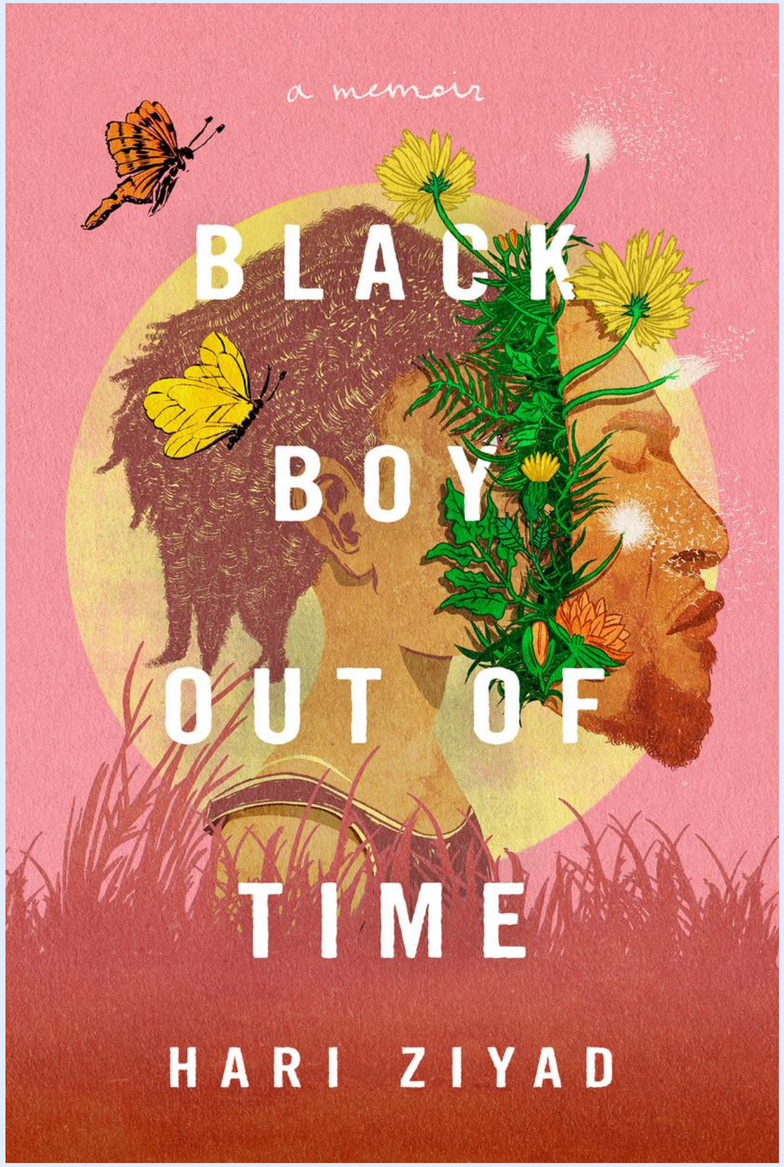
picture books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

He is especially passionate about social activism and projects that strive to educate and inspire positive change.

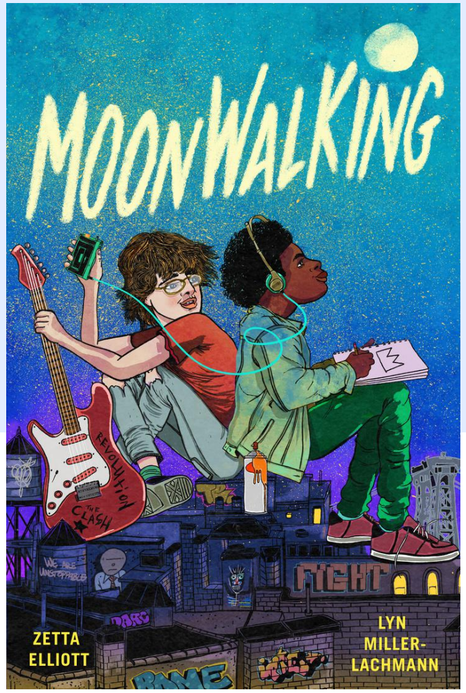
Representation: David Kuhn and Rick Richter
dkuhn@aevitascreative.com, rrichter@aevitascreative.com

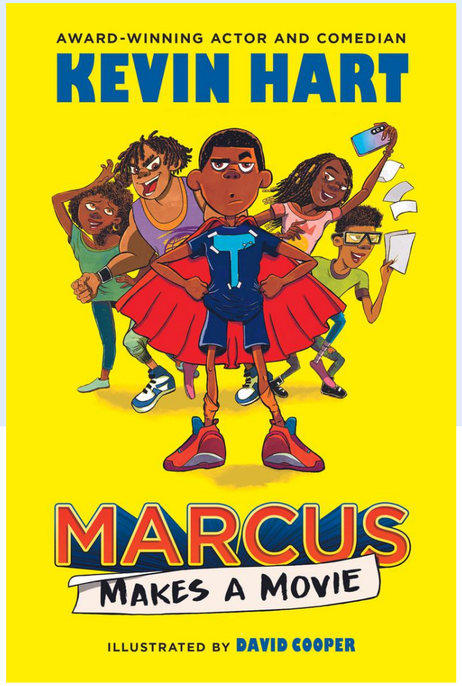
DAVID COOPER

David Elmo Cooper, hailing from Brooklyn, New York, discovered his love for art, specifically comic books, and graffiti, at a young age. After earning his BFA in Communication Design from Pratt Institute in 2000, he pursued successful careers as a photo director, illustrator, and educator. David is a dedicated father of two beautiful daughters who frequently accompany him in his studio, creating their own colorful masterpieces, while he works away on exciting projects. His work has been recognized by The Society of Illustrators, Society of Publication Designers, American Illustration and 3x3 Magazine. Forthcoming titles include *The Doll Test* by Carol Boston Weatherford (Lerner Books) and *Love, Dad* by Dr. Joel Warsh and Andrew Gardner (Penguin Random House).



DAVID COOPER



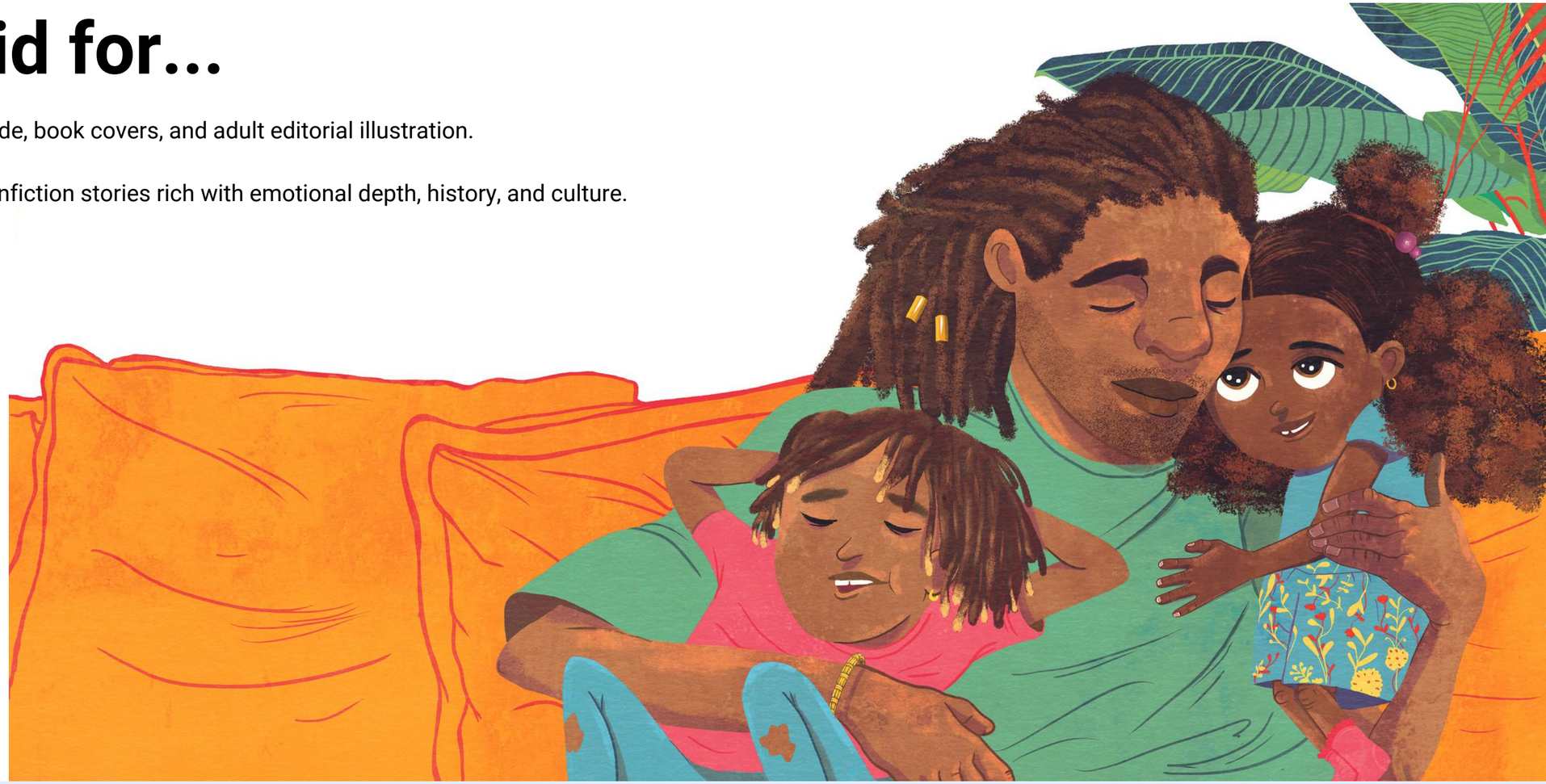


Think of David for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

David is passionate about working on nonfiction stories rich with emotional depth, history, and culture.

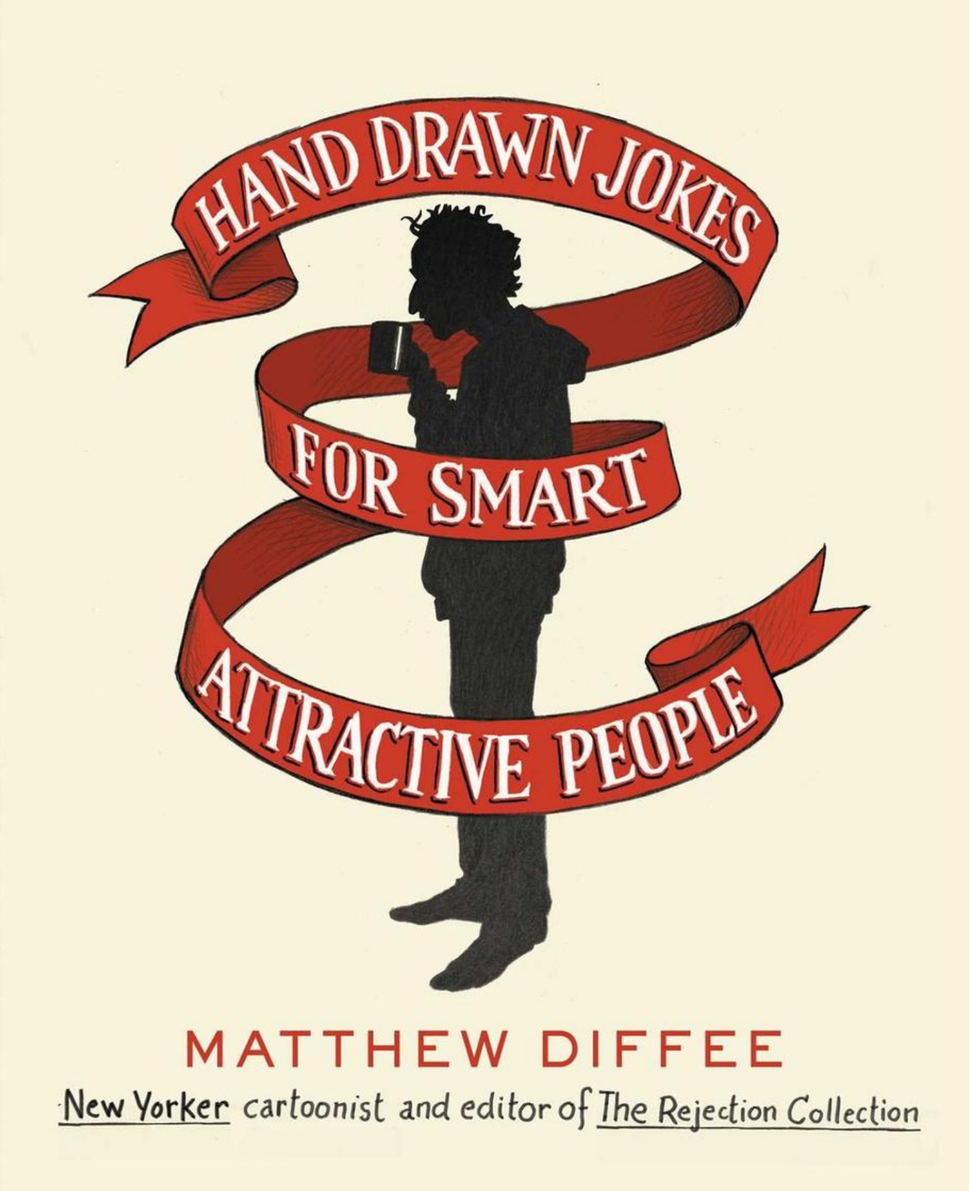
Representation: Rubin Pfeffer
rpfeffer@aevitascreative.com

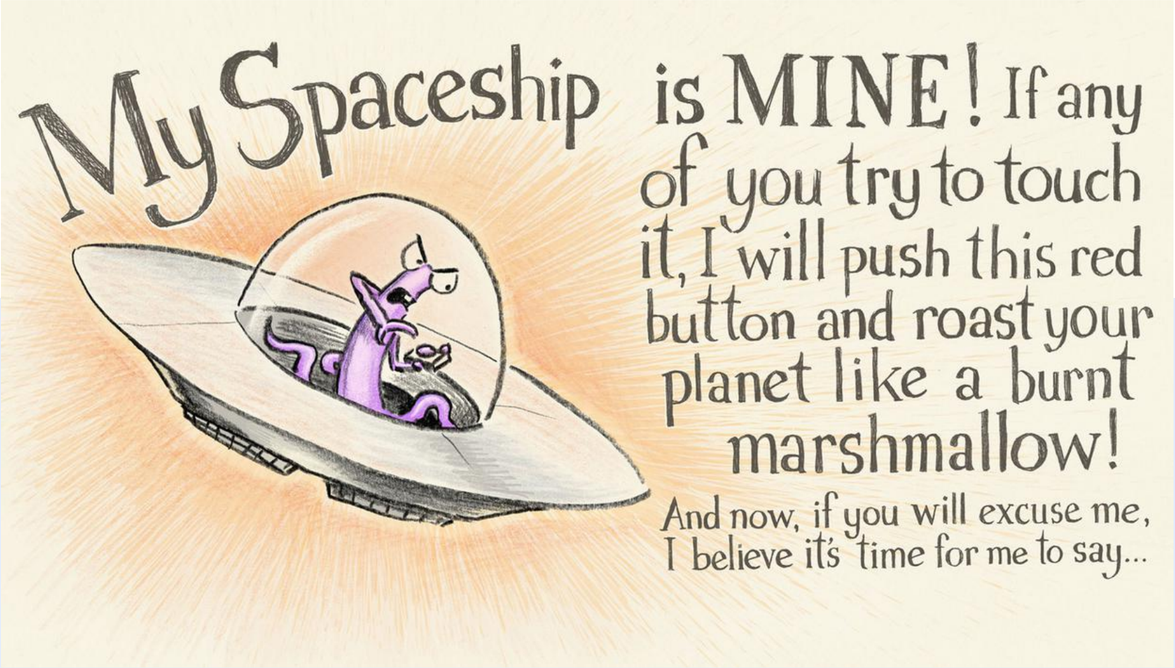


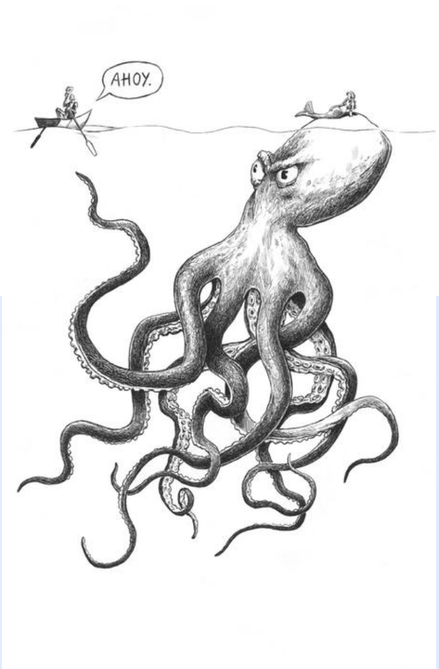
MATTHEW DIFFEE

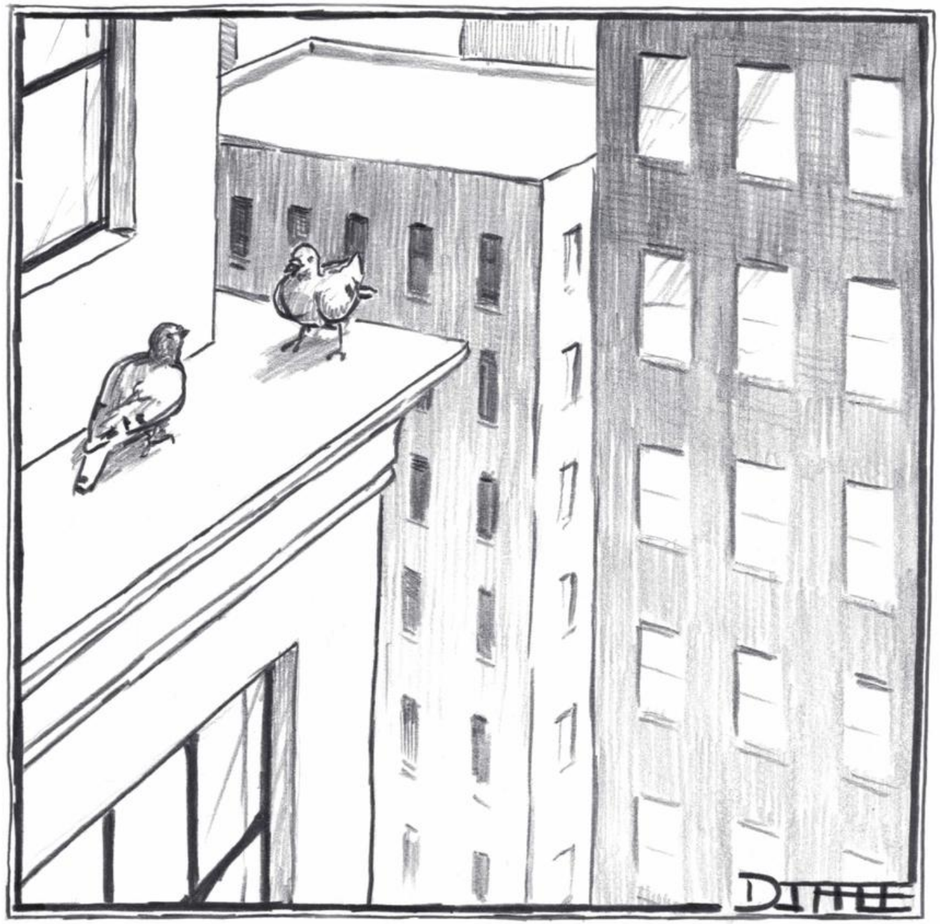
Matthew Diffee has been contributing cartoons to *The New Yorker* magazine since 1999. Steve Martin says, “Matt is truly one of the funniest people in the rarified world of first-rate cartooning.” He has won the Silver Reuben award for gag cartooning from the National Cartoonists Society and his most recent book, *Hand Drawn Jokes for Smart Attractive People* was named an NPR book of the year. Diffee’s work has also appeared in *Time Magazine*, *Esquire*, *The Believer* and *Texas Monthly* where he was nominated for a James Beard award in journalism. He is the editor of volumes one and two of *The Rejection Collection: Cartoons You Never Saw and Never Will See in The New Yorker* published by Simon & Schuster. Beyond cartooning, he has done wide-ranging illustration work including a special collector’s edition of Stephen King’s novel, *Under the Dome*.

Diffee has performed on The Moth Mainstage and regularly speaks on the creative process at events like TEDx and South By Southwest and has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Forbes* and on CNN, PBS, CBS, and NPR’s Fresh Air.




My Spaceship is MINE! If any of you try to touch it, I will push this red button and roast your planet like a burnt marshmallow!
And now, if you will excuse me, I believe it's time for me to say...


AHOY.



“I’d say my biggest influence is probably Pollock.”

Think of Matthew for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and animation.

Representation: David Kuhn and Rick Richter
dkuhn@aevitascreative.com, rrichter@aevitascreative.com

DOZERDRAWS

DOZERDRAWS (or short; Dozer) is an illustrator, comic artist, and bird parent from Germany. He's done work on BOOM! Studios' *Lumberjanes*, Jasmine Walls' *The Last Session* and most recently illustrated Jennie Wood's coming of age graphic novel *Paper Planes* for MadCave Studios. Teaming up with authors to bring new exciting stories with diverse characters to life is Dozer's passion!

DOZERDRAWS

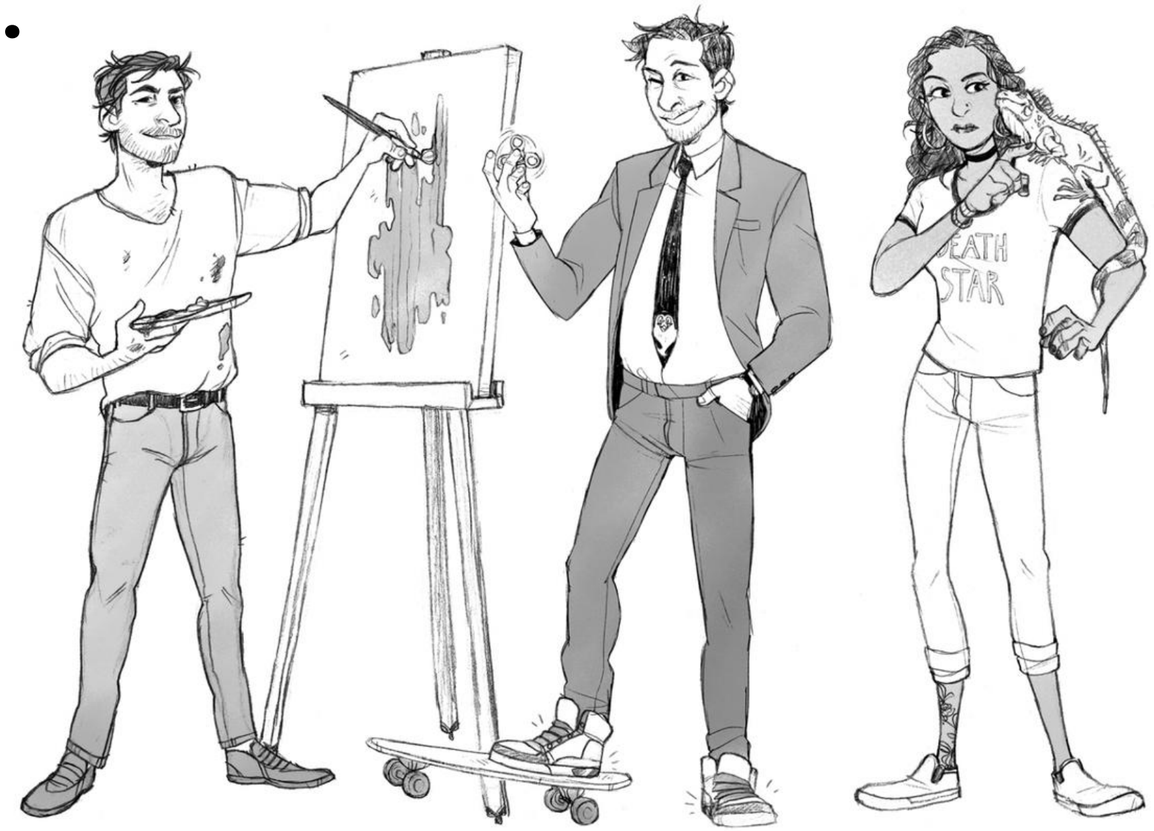
THE LAST SESSION
№1
Walls Dozerdraws Myers
MAD CAVE

BOOM! BOX
ISSUE 54
WATTERS • LEYH • DOZERDRAWS • LAIHO
LUMBERJANES

Think of Dozerdraws for...

graphic novels, short comics, and picture books.

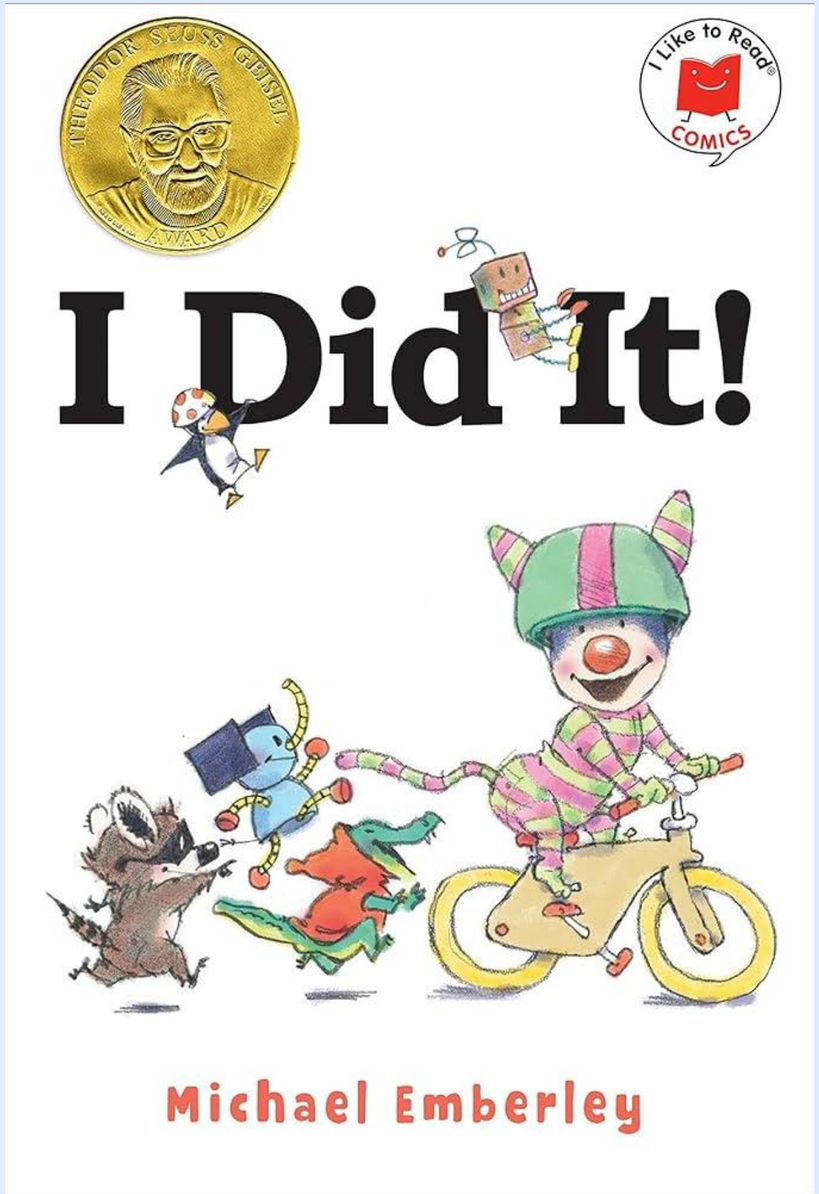
Representation: Erica Bauman
ebauman@aevitascreative.com

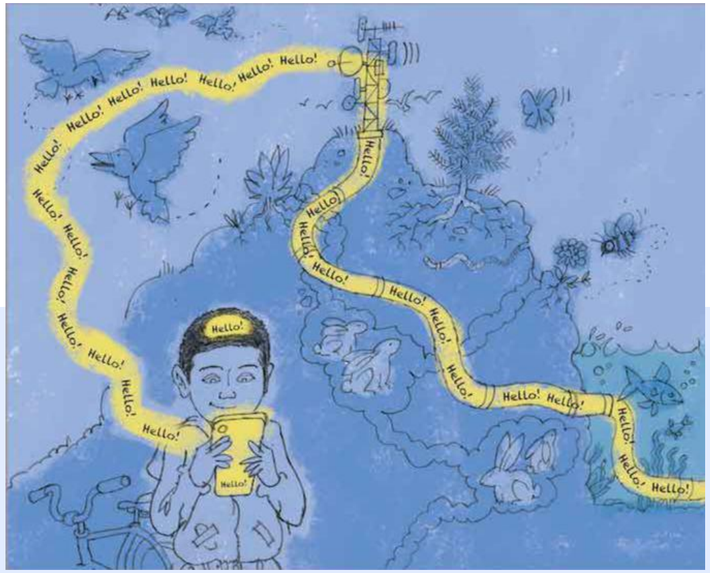


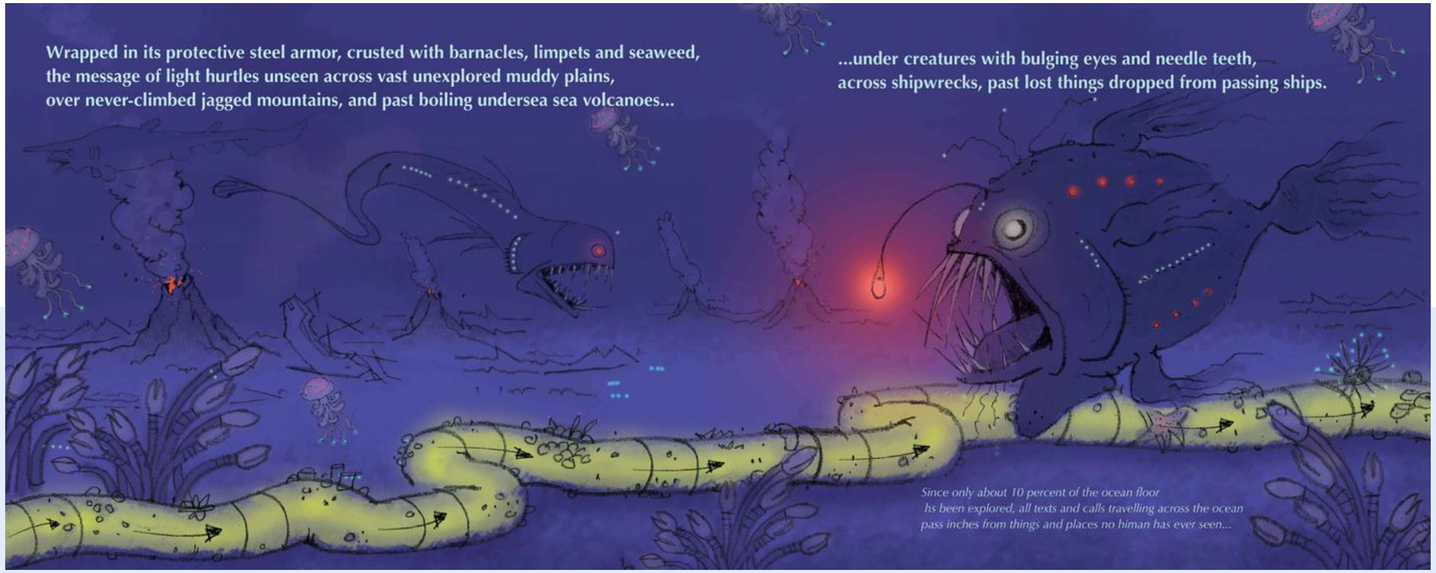
MICHAEL EMBERLEY

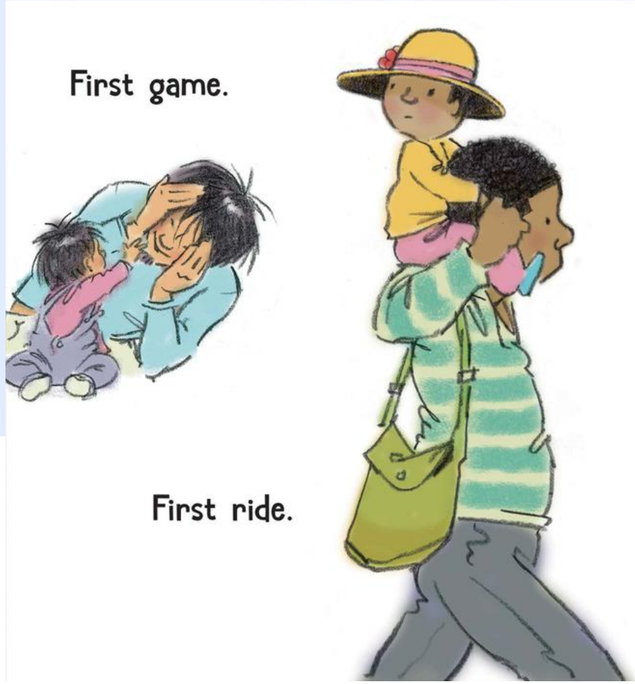
Michael Emberley has been writing and illustrating children's books for over 40 years. Originally from Ipswich, Massachusetts, he has lived in Ireland for the past 15 years. He excels at both fiction and nonfiction, his own written work, as well as collaboration.

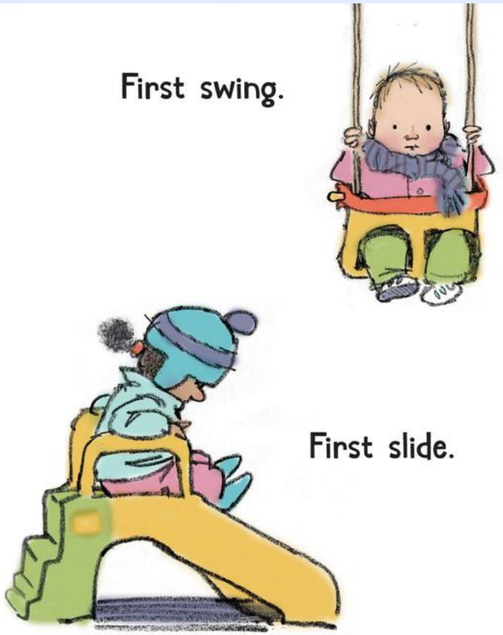
Michael is a versatile, sought after illustrator. He has collaborated with many well known authors and poets. He designed and illustrated the classic, *It's Perfectly Normal* series with author Robie Harris, and created an innovative *You Read To Me*, series with Poet Laureate Mary Ann Hoberman. Michael has also written and illustrated his own humorous and original early readers, including the 2023 Geisel Award winner, *I Did It!*, as well as writing and illustrating the only picture book showing how a text message actually travels across the world, titled - *The Message - the Extraordinary Journey of an Ordinary Text Message.*

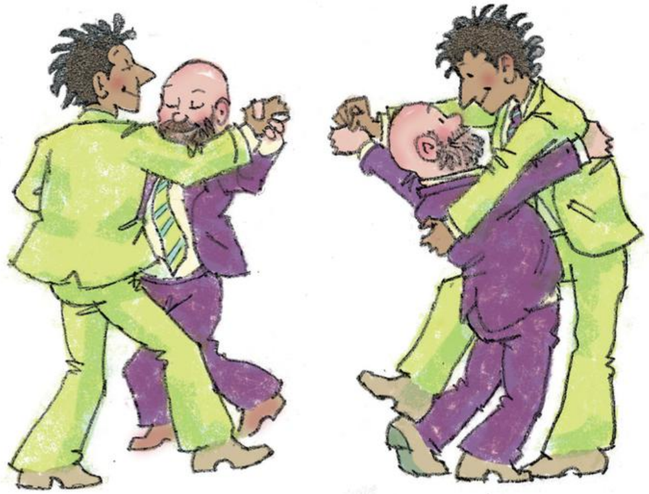












MICHAEL EMBERLEY

Think of Michael for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

Michael is interested in writing and illustrating not only his own books but being part of interesting collaboration projects, as he has done many times in the past. He is very interested in innovative nonfiction and as well as fiction picture books.

Representation: Rick Richter
rrichter@aevitascreative.com

LIZ ENRIGHT

Liz Enright is a writer and cartoonist hailing from the Metro DC area. She draws inspiration from history, folklore, and all things delightfully spooky. Over the years, she’s held a variety of bookish jobs—library reference assistant, rare books peddler, and illustrator of middle grade graphic novels (sometimes all at once).
Currently based in Atlanta, Georgia, Liz has the distinct honor of teaching Sequential Art at the Savannah College of Art and Design. Between projects, you’ll find her roaming the nearest forest or antique shop searching for her next story. To learn more about Liz and her work, you're invited to visit https://www.lizenright.com/.

LIZ ENRIGHT

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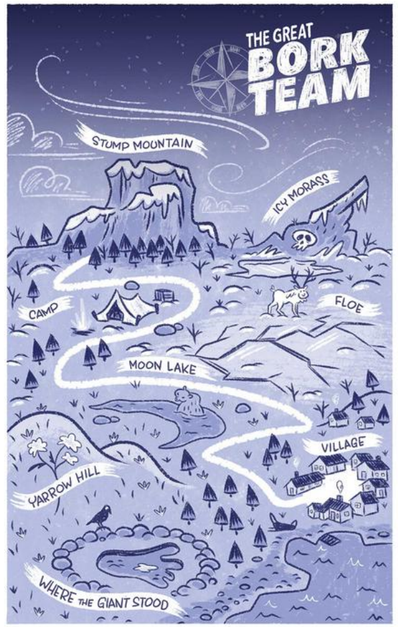
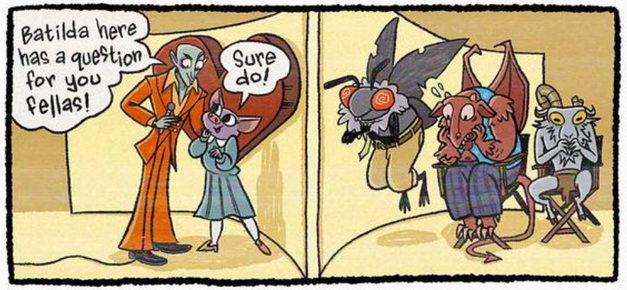
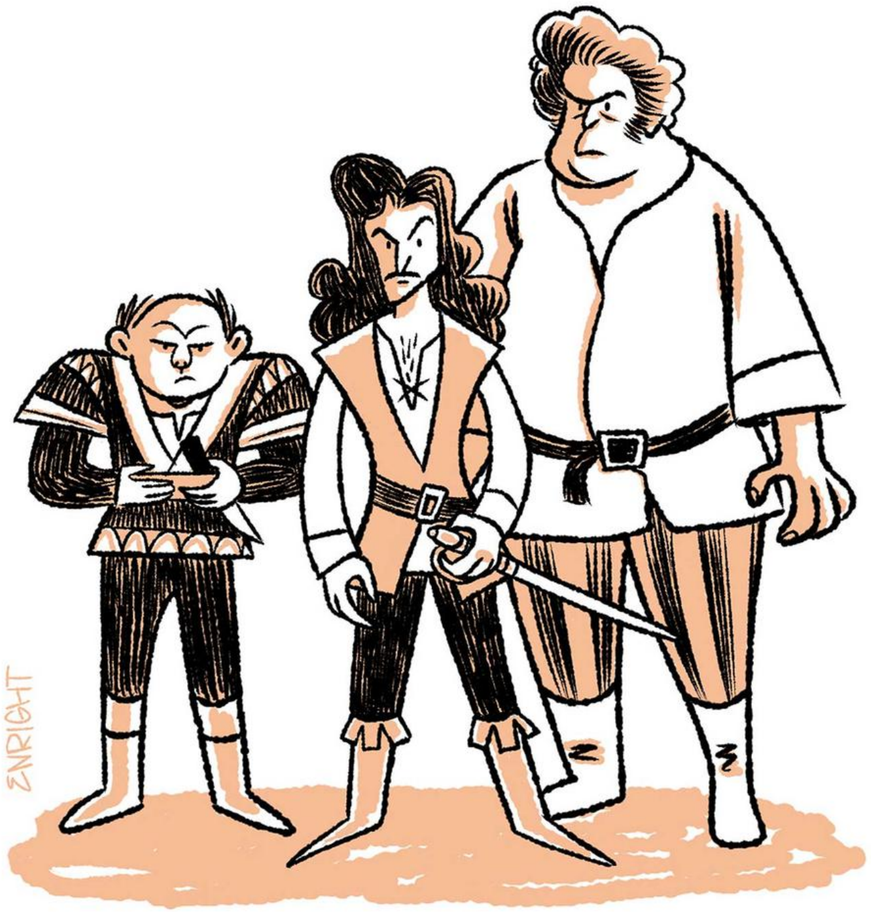






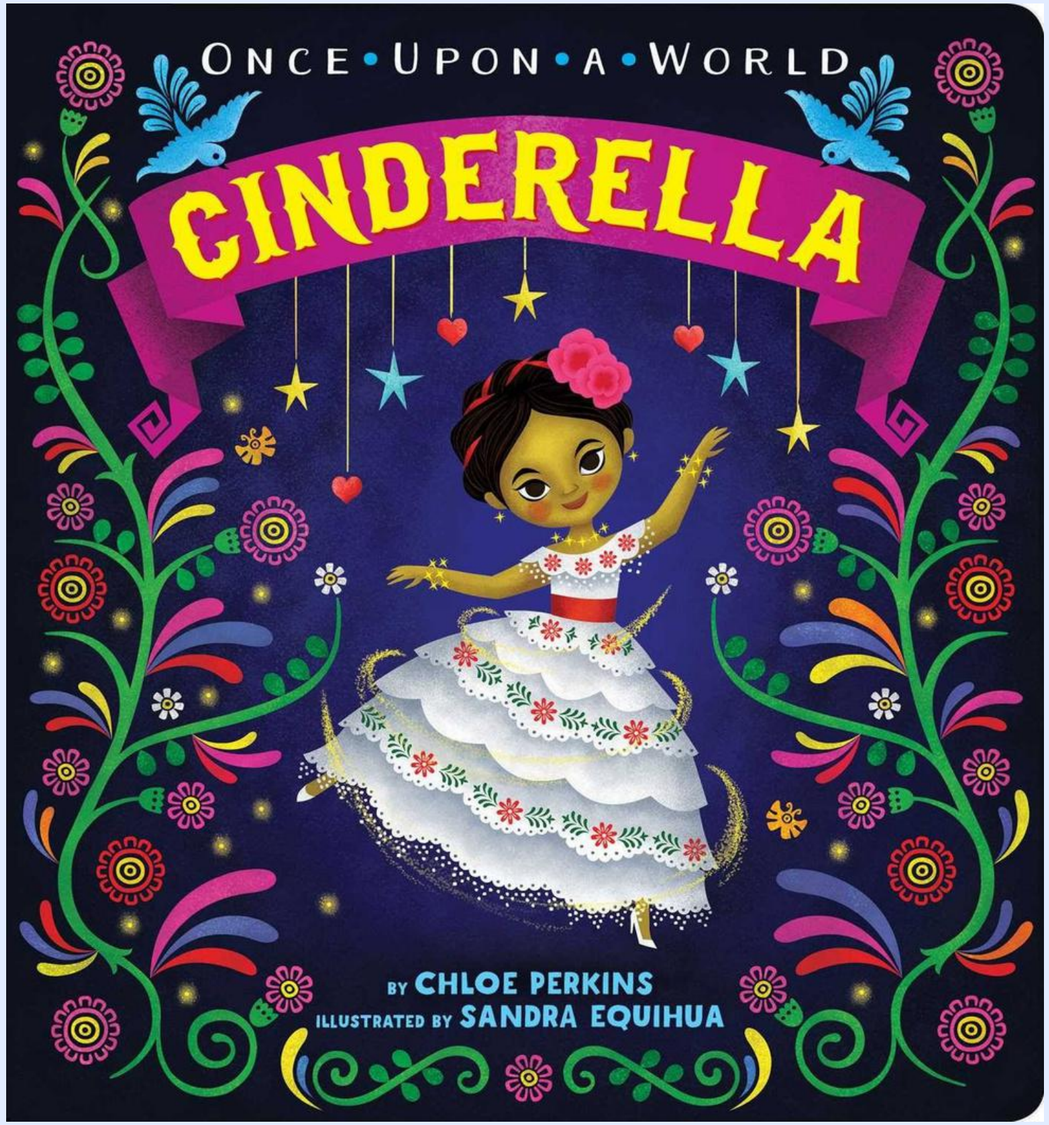
Think of Liz for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, and animation.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

SANDRA EQUIHUA

Emmy Award winner Sandra Equihua was born in Tijuana, Mexico, where she graduated from Ibero University with a bachelor's degree in graphic design. As a graphic designer, illustrator, and character designer, she has collaborated on projects with her husband, Jorge Gutierrez, and WB, Disney, Nickelodeon and Netflix, among others. Together, Sandra and Jorge co-created the highly acclaimed animated series *El Tigre: The Adventures of Manny Rivera* (Nickelodeon), for which she received an Emmy Award for character design, and Netflix's multiple Emmy Award winning animated series, *Maya and the Three*. Sandra was also a character designer for the animated film, *The Book of Life* (20th Century Fox), for which she received an Annie Award. She is currently working on a picture book that she is writing and illustrating, to be released by in 2026 by Penguin Workshop. Sandra lives with her husband and son Luka in Los Angeles, CA, where she happily creates to her heart's content.



SANDRA EQUIHUA

Think of Sandra for...

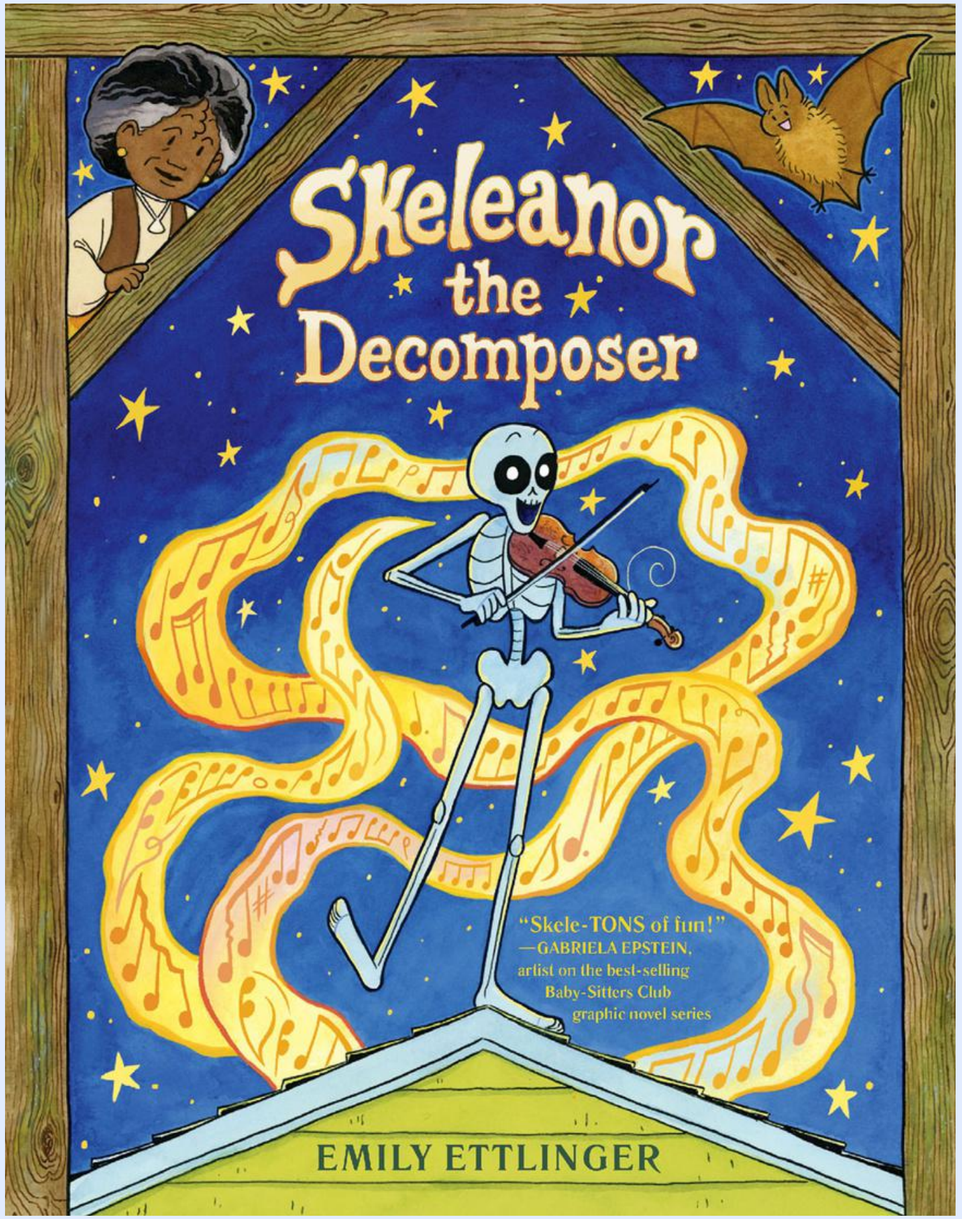
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, and animation.

Sandra is deeply influenced by her latino background and border child philosophy. Even more so since she moved to Los Angeles. Although it's just a hop, skip and a jump away, any kind of absence makes the heart grow fonder and she uses this nostalgia to fuel her creativity. While she loves to portray her heritage and childhood, she enjoys venturing into other subject matters as well. Where there is a story to tell, an illustration will follow! Her antennae are always on the alert for inspiration for new characters, new ideas, new color palettes...it's a 24 hour thing for her.

Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

EMILY ETTLINGER

Emily Ettlinger is a cartoonist, illustrator, and teacher based in almost-DC, Maryland. She holds a BFA in illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design. Her debut graphic novel *Skeleanor The Decomposer* (Penguin Workshop, 2023) was described as "a gentle, winning tale" by Kirkus. A Spanish edition was released in 2024, published by Astronave. Emily loves using art to explore both the silly and the serious (with the scales perpetually tipped towards the former). She works both digitally and traditionally with a focus on ink, gouache, and watercolor. She teaches part-time at a local arts center where the children mock her project examples.



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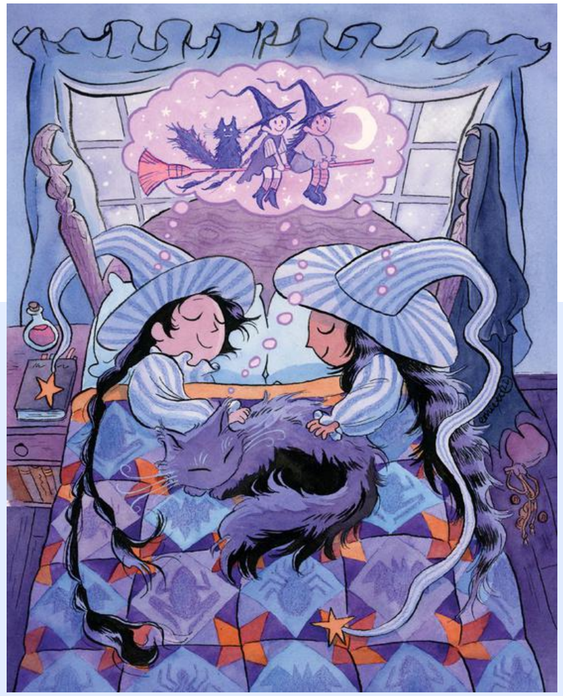
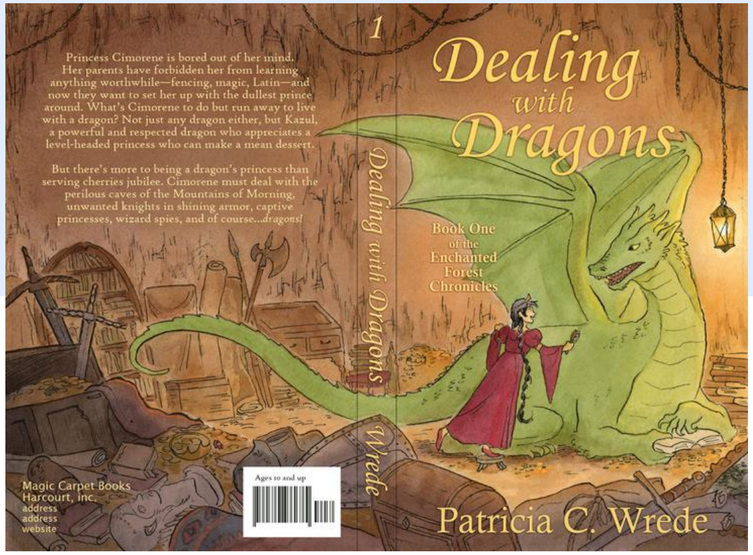
Happy New Year!!
?

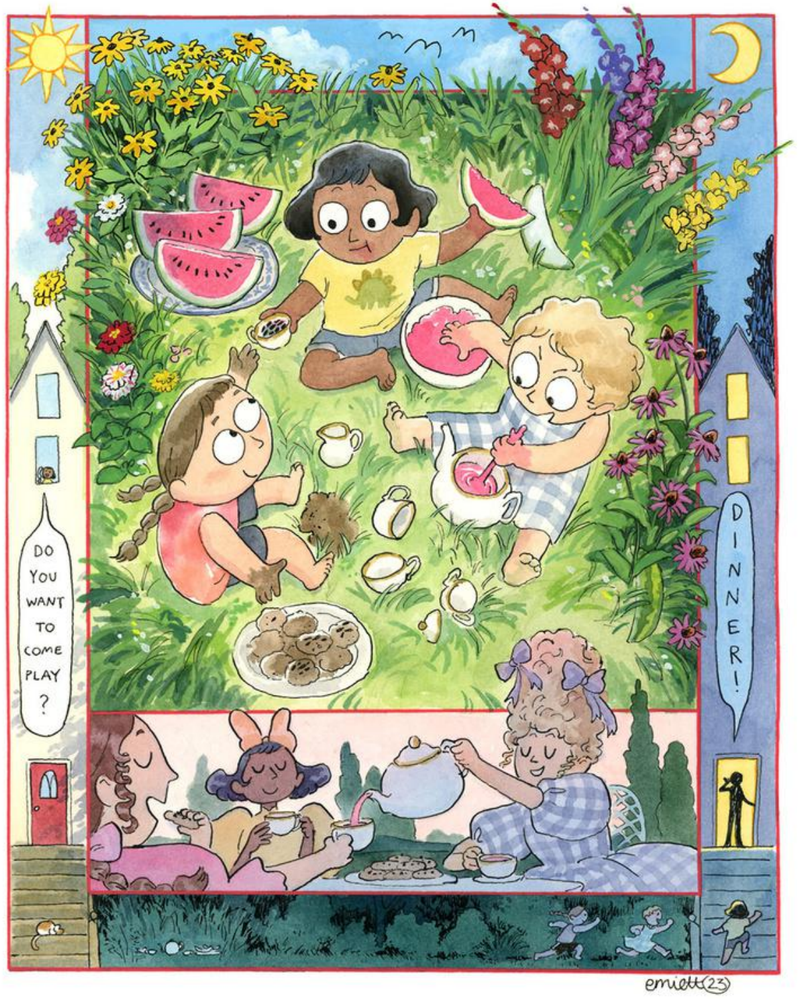


WHAT A STRANGE MACHINE...
OH WELL
COME DANIEL
IT'S TIME TO GO.

Next evening...
I'm no one-person band...
...but with these wheels on the organ I can zoom right through town like a one-skeleton parade!
The town's gonna love it!
AIEEEEEE!
RUN!
SLAM!
SLAM!
SLAM!
KYA!
SLAM!
AIEEEEE!
AAIIEE!
AAAH!
Ah!
-or not.
14
15


Princess Cimorene is bored out of her mind. Her parents have forbidden her from learning anything worthwhile—fencing, magic, Latin—and now they want to set her up with the dullest prince around. What's Cimorene to do but run away to live with a dragon? Not just any dragon either, but Kazul, a powerful and respected dragon who appreciates a level-headed princess who can make a mean dessert.
But there's more to being a dragon's princess than serving cherries jubilee. Cimorene must deal with the perilous caves of the Mountains of Morning, unwanted knights in shining armor, captive princesses, wizard spies, and of course...dragons!
1
Dealing with Dragons
Book One of the Enchanted Forest Chronicles
Dealing with Dragons
Wrede
Magic Carpet Books
Harcourt, Inc.
address
address
website
Ages 10 and up
Patricia C. Wrede

This was too much for either of them, and they both collapsed in laughter.
72



Think of Emily for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and product design.

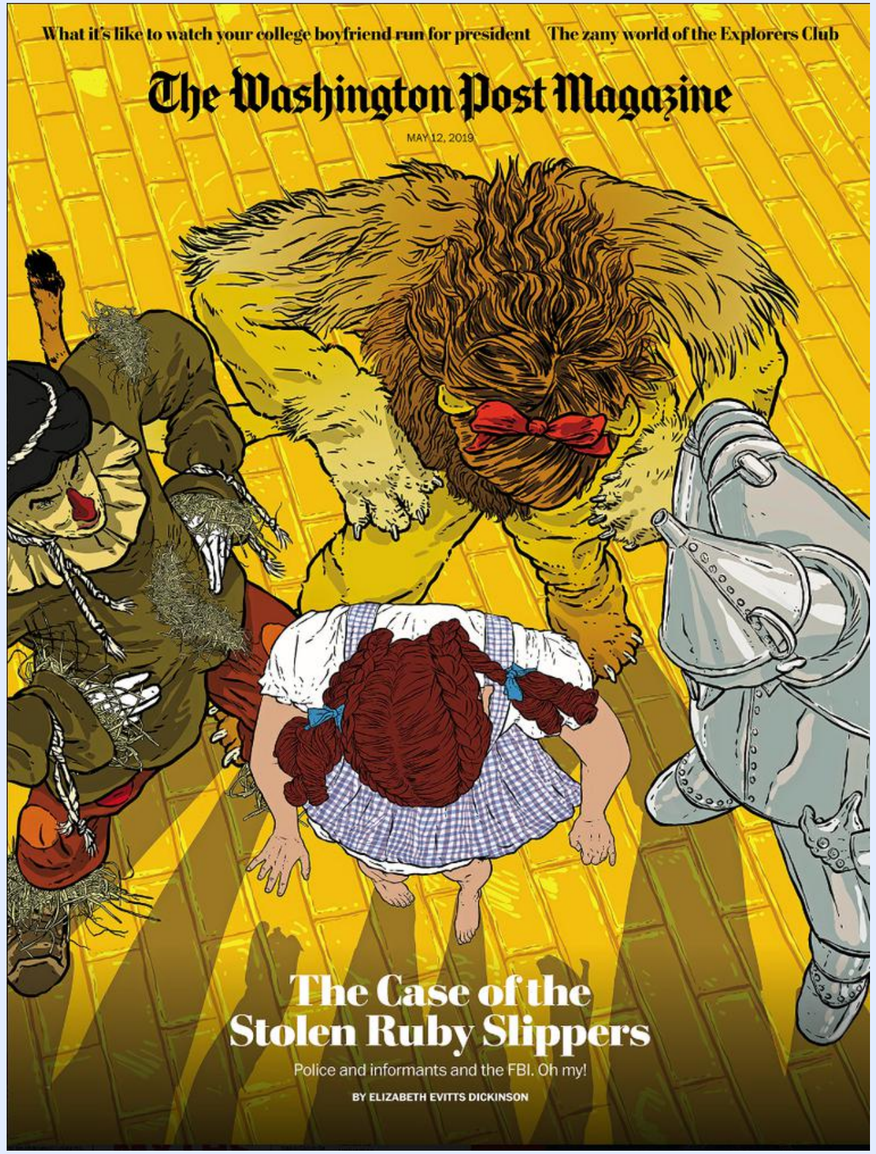
Emily is interested in kidlit illustration for all ages & genres; picture books; graphic novels; and covers.

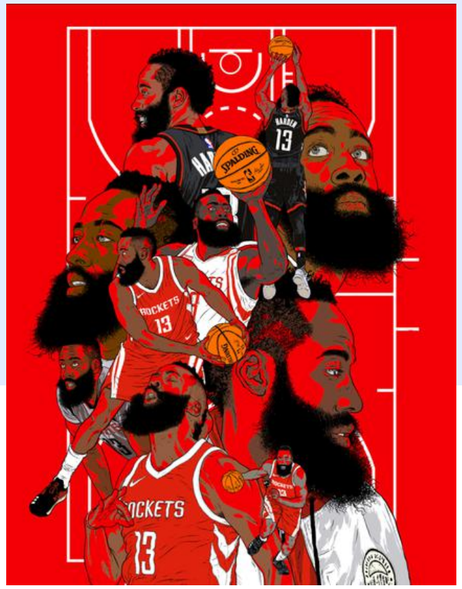
Representation: Maeve MacLysaght
mmaclysaght@aevitascreative.com

JAN FEINDT

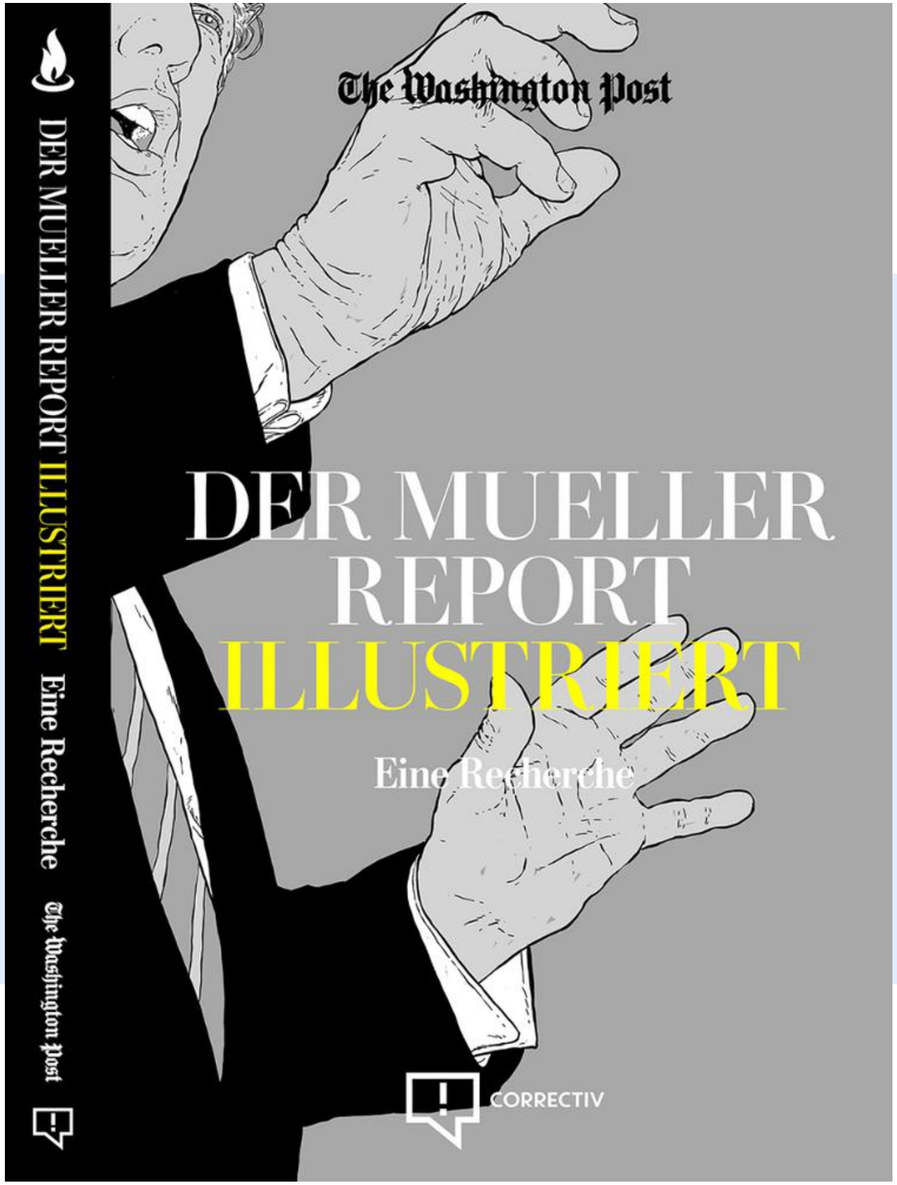
Jan Feindt is a German Graphic Novel artist and illustrator living in Berlin. His 2014 graphic novel *White Wolves*, a graphic report about right wing terrorism, earned him the German Journalism Award in the innovation category as well as a Lead Award. In 2019 Jan illustrated *The Mueller Report* for the Washington Post which ranked in T*he New York Times* bestseller list for Graphic Novels and Manga for several weeks.

His work has appeared in numerous magazines and books worldwide; *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Der Spiegel*, *Rolling Stone*, *GQ* and *Wired* and he has collaborated with many corporate and advertising clients. Jan utilizes realism to depict modern themes and lifestyle situations, combining the look of classical drawings with flat contemporary color. Jan studied Communication Design and Illustration at the Shenkar College of Engineering, Design and Art in Tel Aviv/Israel.





ES WAR NOCH KEINE PANIK, ABER DOCH EINE STÄNDIGE SCHWELENDE UNRUHE. IMMER FÜHLTEN WIR EIN LEISES UNBEHAGEN, WENN VOM BALKAN HER DIE SCHÜSSE KNATTERTEN.
Prinkenerstr. Mastbh
Ringlin
5
UND AN DEN KÜSTEN — LIEST MAN — STEIGT DIE FLUT.
204
NUN HATTE ICH ALSO EIN BILD VON DER VERMISSTEN, DIE AUF IHRE ANGEHÖRIGEN SO HERKWÜRDIG BEDROHLICH WIRKTE. HEUTE WEISS ICH KAUM NOCH, WIE ES AUSSAH, ABER DAMALS WAR ES MEIN EINZIGER ANHALTSPUNKT. ICH BEGANN ES WAHLLOS HERUMZUZEIGEN.


The Washington Post
DER MUELLER REPORT ILLUSTRIERT
Eine Recherche
The Washington Post
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Eine Recherche
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JAN FEINDT

Think of Jan for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and animation.

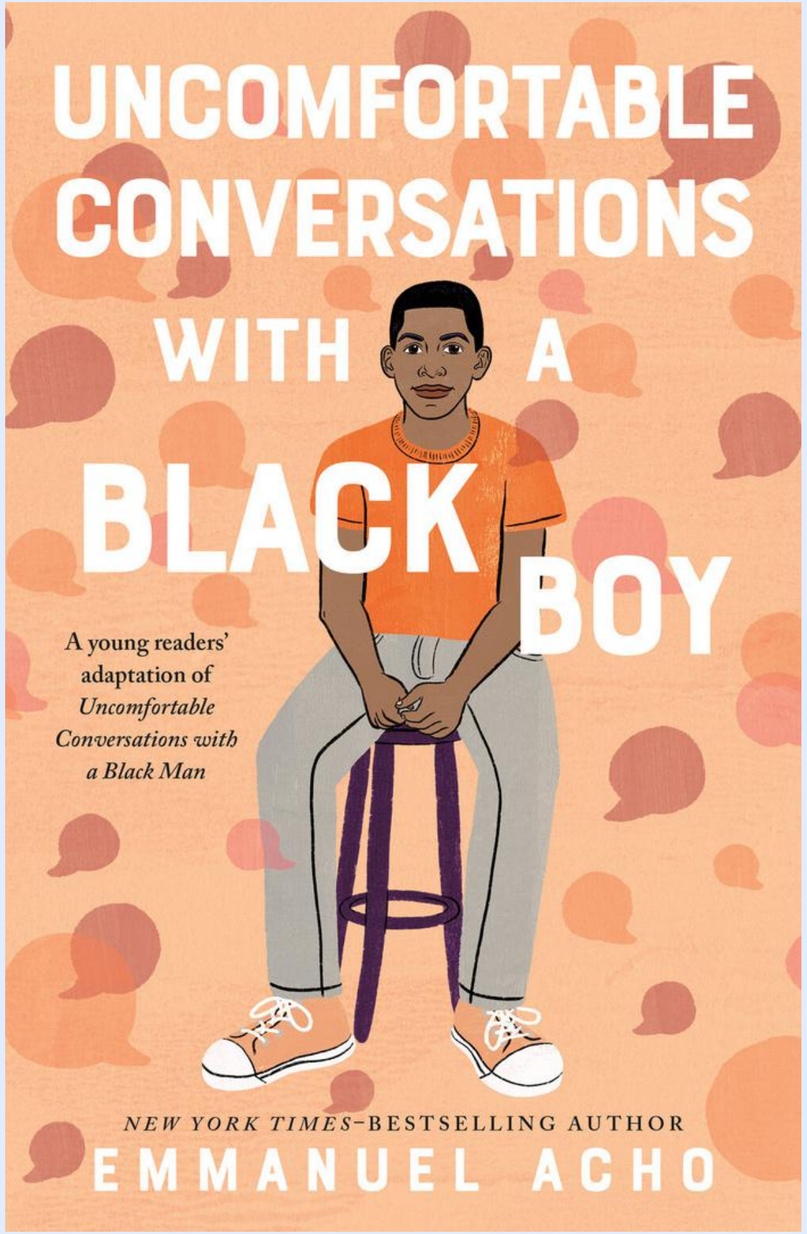
With an interest in graphic novels, Jan is interested in illustrating more books for both children and adults. He is drawn to projects about political issues as well as big city real life situations.

Representation: Rick Richter
rrichter@aevitascreative.com

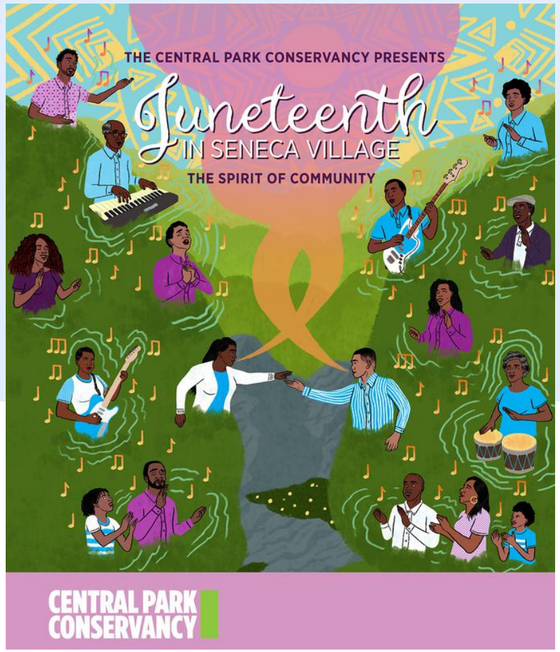
DANIEL FISHEL

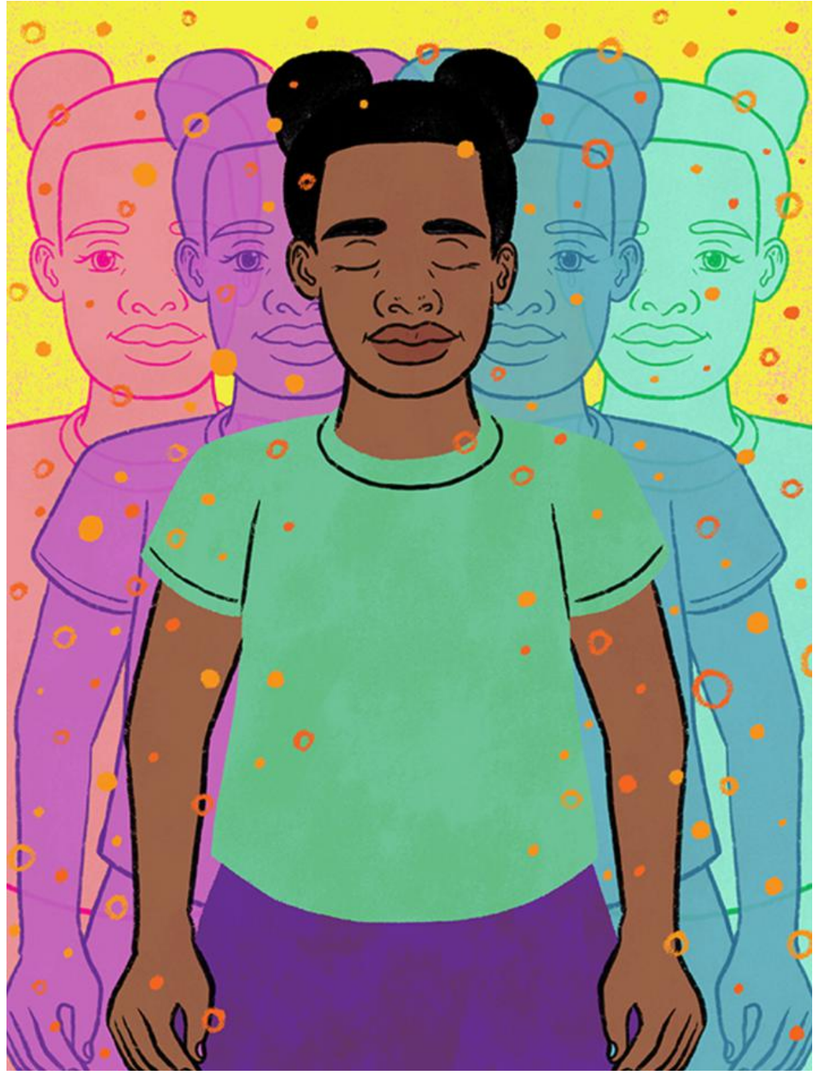
Daniel Fishel's work has appeared on records, book covers, apparel, products, advertisements, wine labels, animations, magazines, newspapers, and galleries around the world. From their studio in Philadelphia, they have worked on illustration and animation projects with clients such as Apple, Target, Audible, Bloomberg, Central Park Conservancy, Flocabulary, Netflix, Baron Fig, Macmillan Publishers, Scholastic, HarperCollins, McSweeney's, NY Public Radio, *The Washington Post*, NPR, AARP, *The New York Times*, *Forbes*, NBC News, Vice, TODAY show, This American Life, and Politico.

Daniel holds a BFA in Illustration from the University of the Arts and an MFA in Illustration as a Visual Essay from the School of Visual Arts. The Society of Illustrators and American Illustration annuals have showcased their illustration work. *Forbes Magazine* acknowledged them in 2016 as one of their 30 under 30 honorees in the Art/Style category. Daniel spends their leisure time with their feline companion, Avocado, cruising around the city on their motorcycle and embarking on road trips while pursuing the perfect croissant.



DANIEL FISHEL





Think of Daniel for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, and animation.

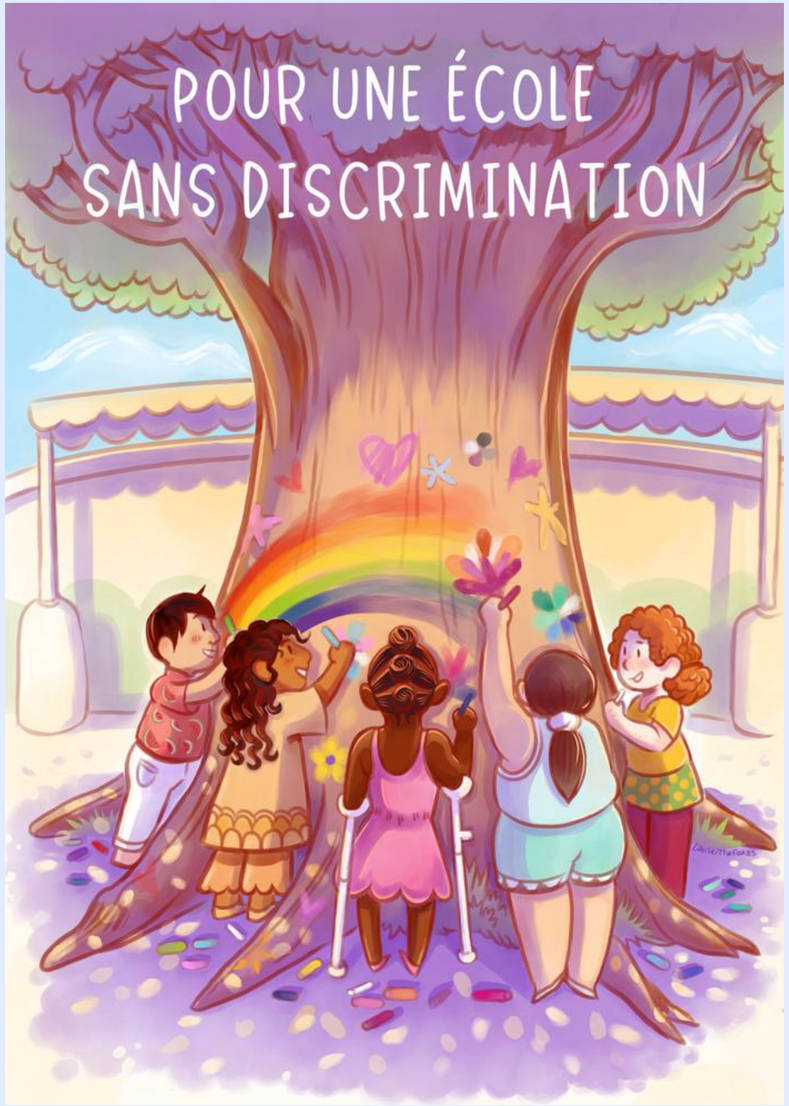
In addition to the topics represented in their portfolio, Daniel would be thrilled to work on inspiring nonfiction and fictional stories about overcoming odds, learning from mistakes, the importance of friendship, scientific discoveries, and uplifting historical moments.

Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

LAURIER THE FOX

Laurier The Fox is a French disabled gay trans man and former graphic designer from Marseilles. He is now a comic book author and illustrator living in Brittany. His work focuses on topics around feminism, anti-racism, anti-ableism and LGBTIAQP+ issues. In this context, he regularly works for collectives and institutions (French Planned Parenthood, Collectif Intersexe et Activiste, etc.) and press outlets interested by these issues. He does presentations in schools and gives conferences. He has participated in and published several projects : “Transidentités et intersexuations” in the anthology *Féministes* (Vide Cocagne 2018), an afterword for *Le genre, cet obscur objet du désordre* (Casterman 2021), *Je m'appelle Julie* (On Ne Compte Pas Pour Du Beurre 2022), *J'ai un'e ami'e Trans* a self-published comic book in 2022 and finally “ReconnaiTrans” (Editions Lapin 2021).

He's a metalhead with a passionate interest in social sciences, botany, ecology, role-playing games, japanimation, medieval European history, and video games.



LAURIER THE FOX

Think of Laurier for...

picture books, book covers, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, adult editorial illustration, and young adult.

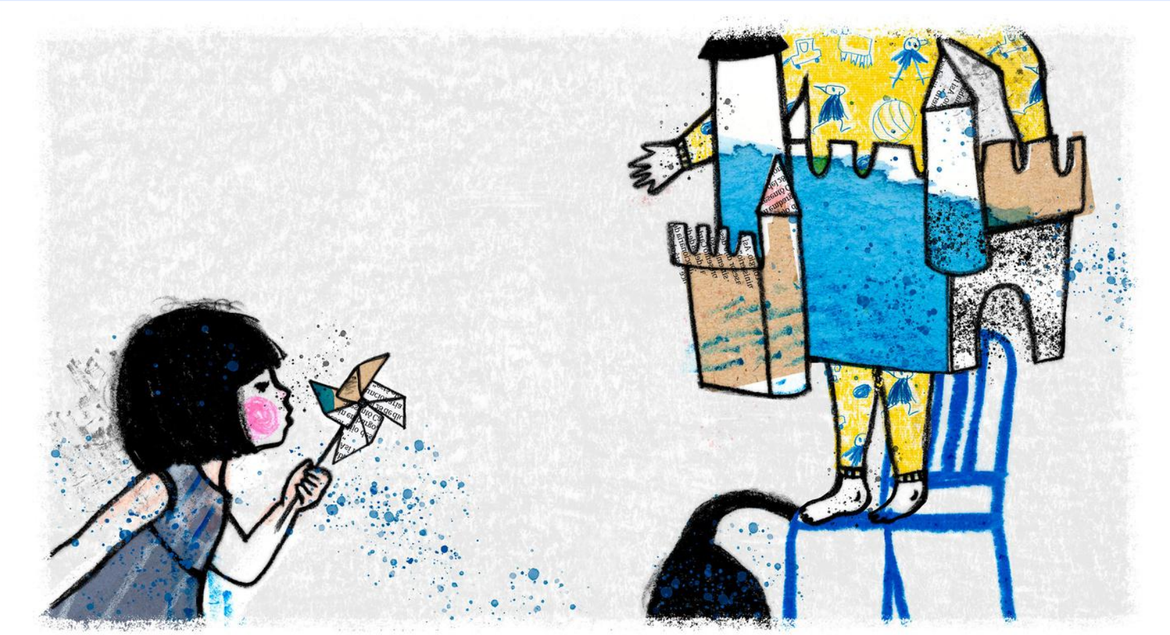
Laurier's favorite subjects to illustrate are: social justice and activism (fight against racism/sexism/lgbt-phobia/ableism), imagination, nature, climate change, fantasy, and educational material.

Representation: Julie Finidori
jfinidori@aevitascreative.com

LUCÍA FRANCO

Lucía Franco is a Uruguayan author and illustrator with a graduate degree in graphic design from ORT University in Montevideo. She has worked as a graphic designer for several commercial studios and agencies, and as an art director at a publishing house, which inspired her to specialize in editorial design and illustration.

Lucía has illustrated books for children and adults, and done editorial and commercial work for newspapers, magazines and companies in Uruguay, Argentina, Mexico, Spain, France, and the United States. She is the recipient of her country's distinguished Bartolomé Hidalgo Prize for *El niño de la mancha*. Her work has been featured in collective and individual exhibits in Uruguay and abroad. Lucía's illustrations are always filled with details. She uses a variety of media, including colored pencils, watercolor, paper cutouts, wax pastels, and ink to create vibrant, engaging images with lots of texture.



Think of Lucía for...

picture books and book covers.

She enjoys illustrating images that depict relationships between people and creating rich, detailed images of everyday life and the natural world.

Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

IRENA FREITAS

Irena Freitas is an award-winning illustrator. She has an MFA in Illustration from Savannah College of Art and Design, and loves illustrating people, funny situations that happen in daily life, and whimsical stories. Her work has been featured at Bologna Book Fair, Society of Illustrators, Bratislava Biennial of Illustration, Golden Pinwheel, and 3x3 Magazine annuals. She has illustrated picture books published in Brazil, Portugal and the US, including *If Your Babysitter Is a Bruja*, *Baby's First Love Story*, and *Thoughts Are Air*. Forthcoming titles include *Wonder in the Garden, If Your Abuelo is An Astronauta* and Irena's debut as author and illustrator *The Dog from Ipanema*. When she is not reading and illustrating books, Irena likes to travel and visit new places. She lives in Manaus, Brazil.

IRENA FREITAS

Think of Irena for...

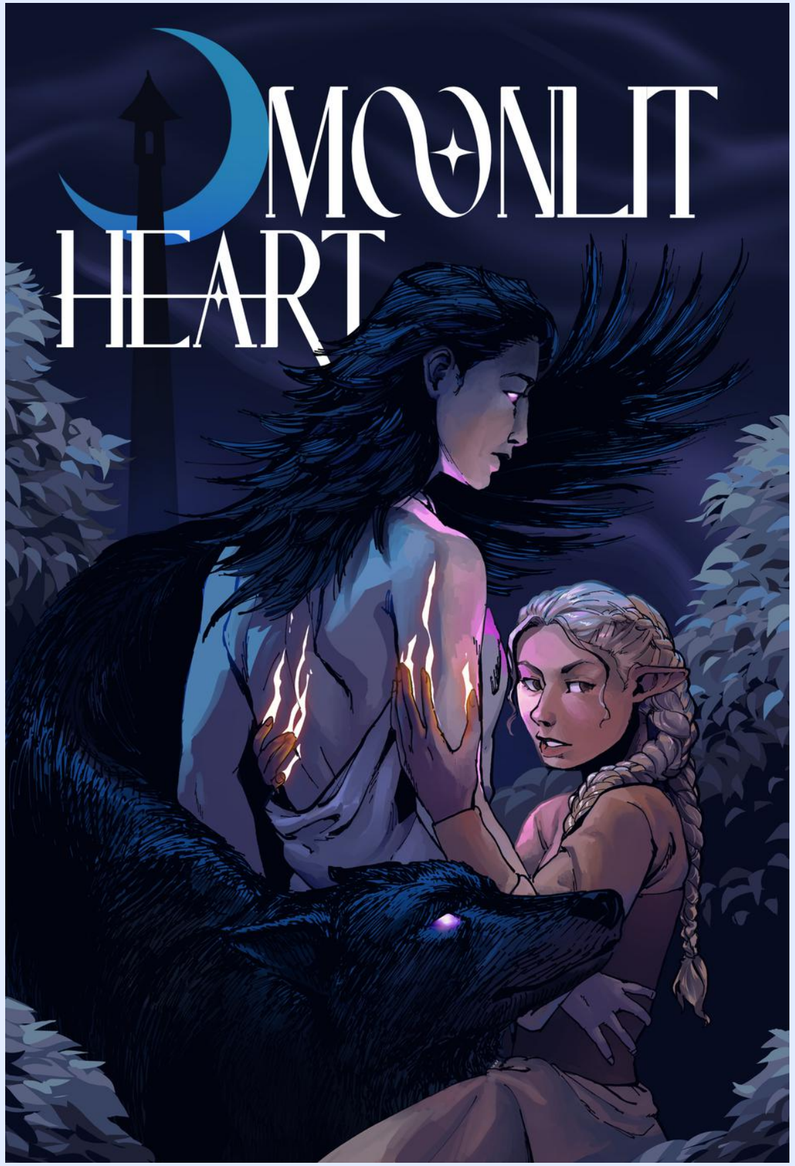
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

She loves stories about diverse cultural experiences, Latin American culture, and fairy tales.

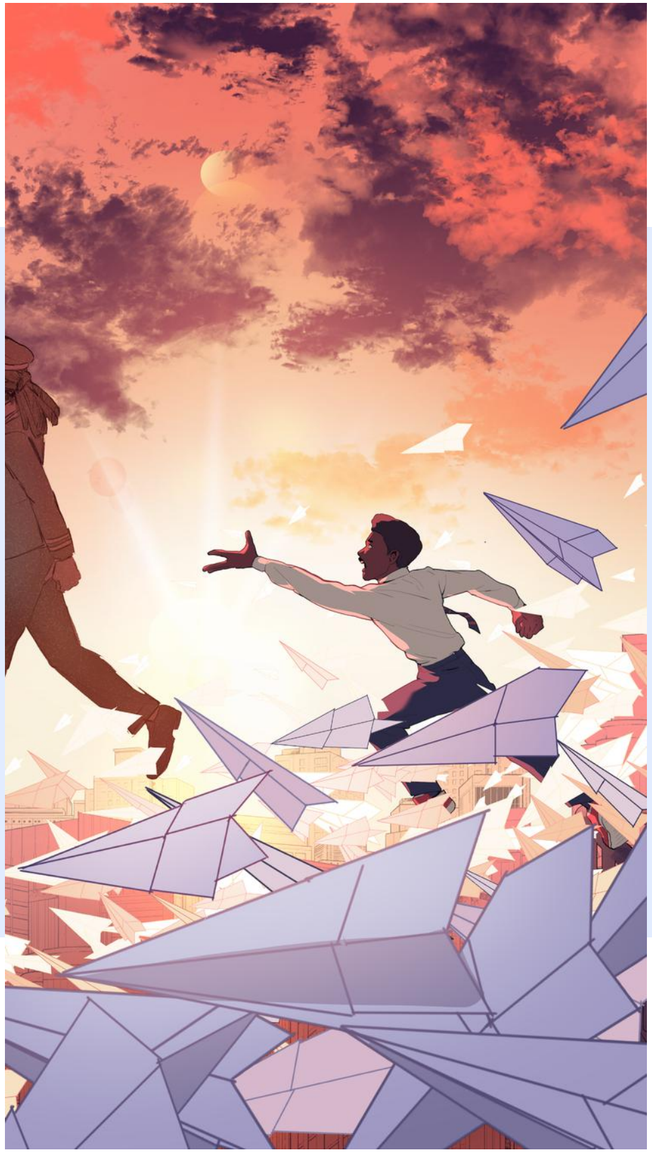
Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

CHELSEA GOERZEN

Chelsea Goerzen is a Vancouver based comic writer and artist with a love for mystery. In 2021, she earned a Bachelor of Design from the Alberta University of the Arts where she majored in Character Design. Her work includes Sunset Phoenix and Asterion on Webtoon.



CHELSEA GOERZEN



Think of Chelsea for...

graphic novels, animation, book covers, adult editorial illustration, young adult, and interior art.

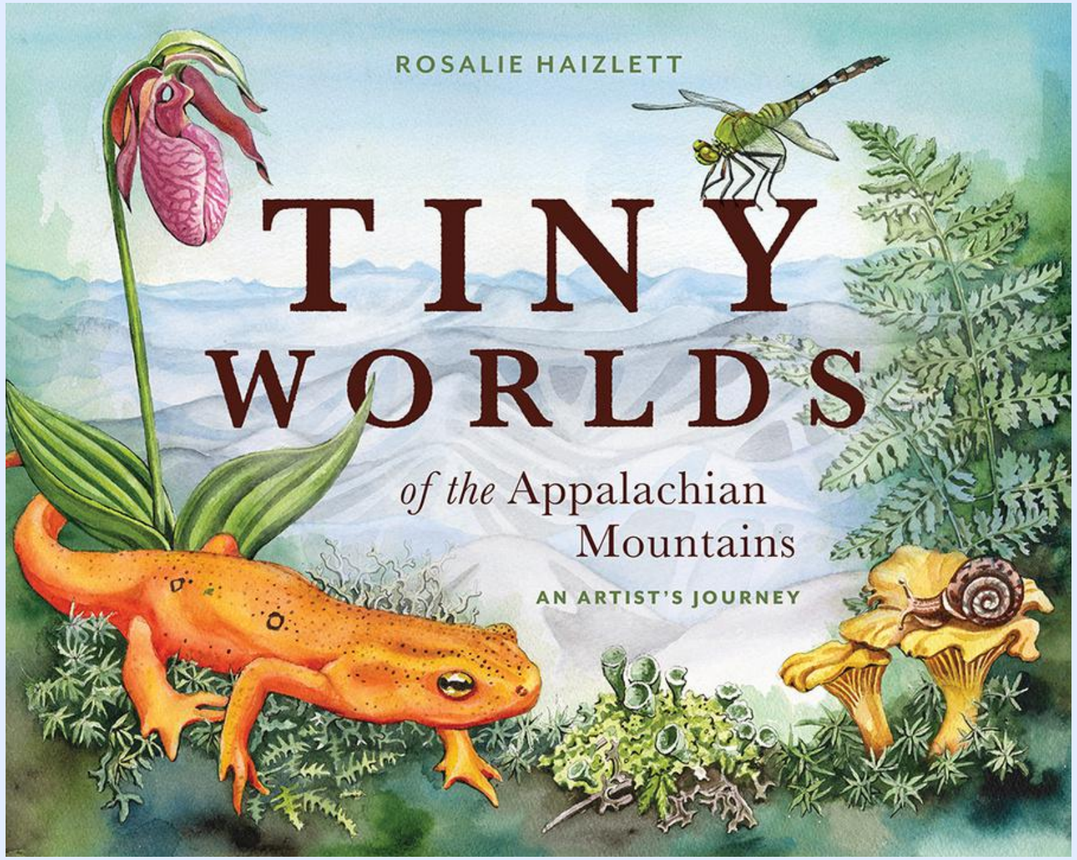
Chelsea loves the dramatic, the epic, the tense, the edgy, and the cinematic. She leans toward teen or older audiences and semi realism.

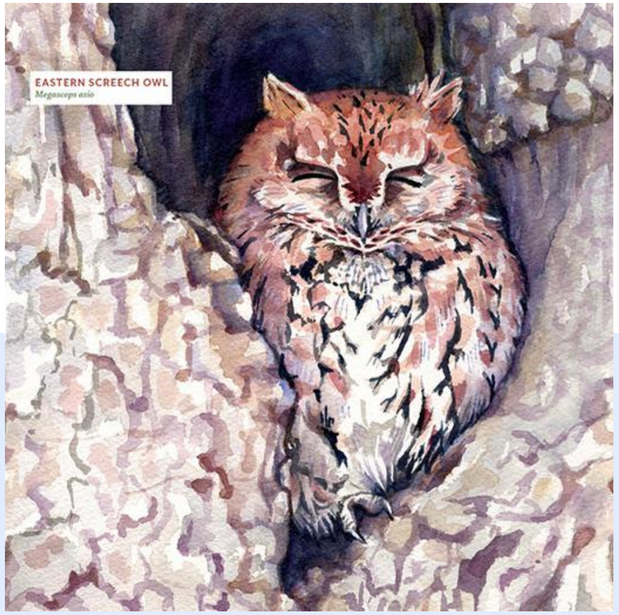
Representation: Maeve MacLysaght
mmaclysaght@aevitascreative.com

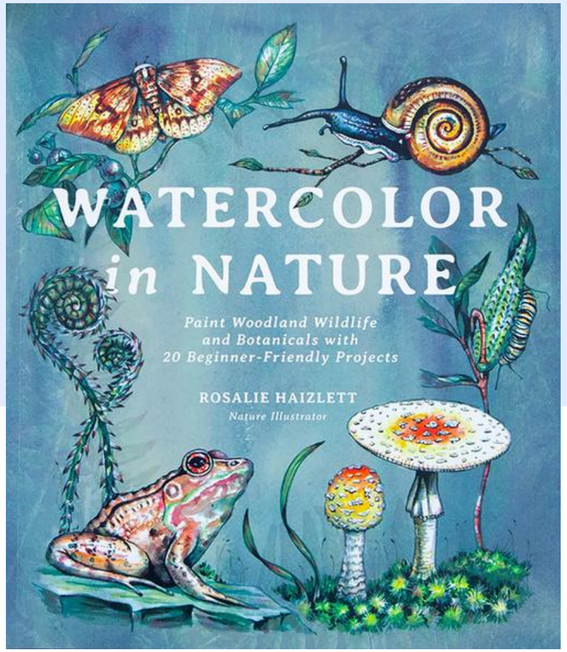
ROSALIE HAIZLETT

Rosalie Haizlett is an illustrator who creates captivating watercolor paintings that celebrate the hidden wonders of the natural world. Haizlett has been an Artist-in-Residence at Great Smoky Mountains National Park, with the National Audubon Society at Hog Island, and at the Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History. In 2022, she was awarded the Eckelberry Fellowship for distinguished wildlife illustrators. Her clients include The Nature Conservancy, *Audubon Magazine*, *The Washington Post*, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Smithsonian Folklife.

Rosalie also teaches workshops in person and online, and so far she has taught more than 60,000 students how to paint the natural world as a Top Teacher on Skillshare. The author and illustrator of *Watercolor in Nature* and *Tiny Worlds of the Appalachian Mountains*, she lives on the edge of Monongahela National Forest in Elkins, West Virginia.







ROSALIE HAIZLETT

Think of Rosalie for...

picture books, board books, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

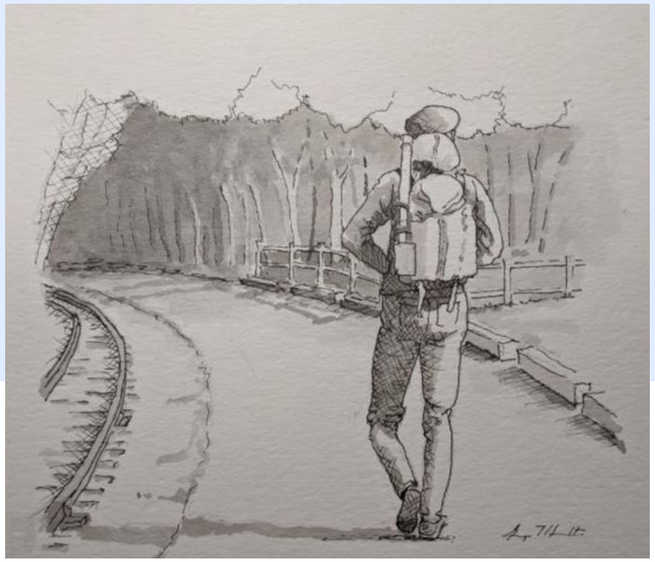
Representation: Bridget Wagner Matzie
bmatzie@aevitascreative.com

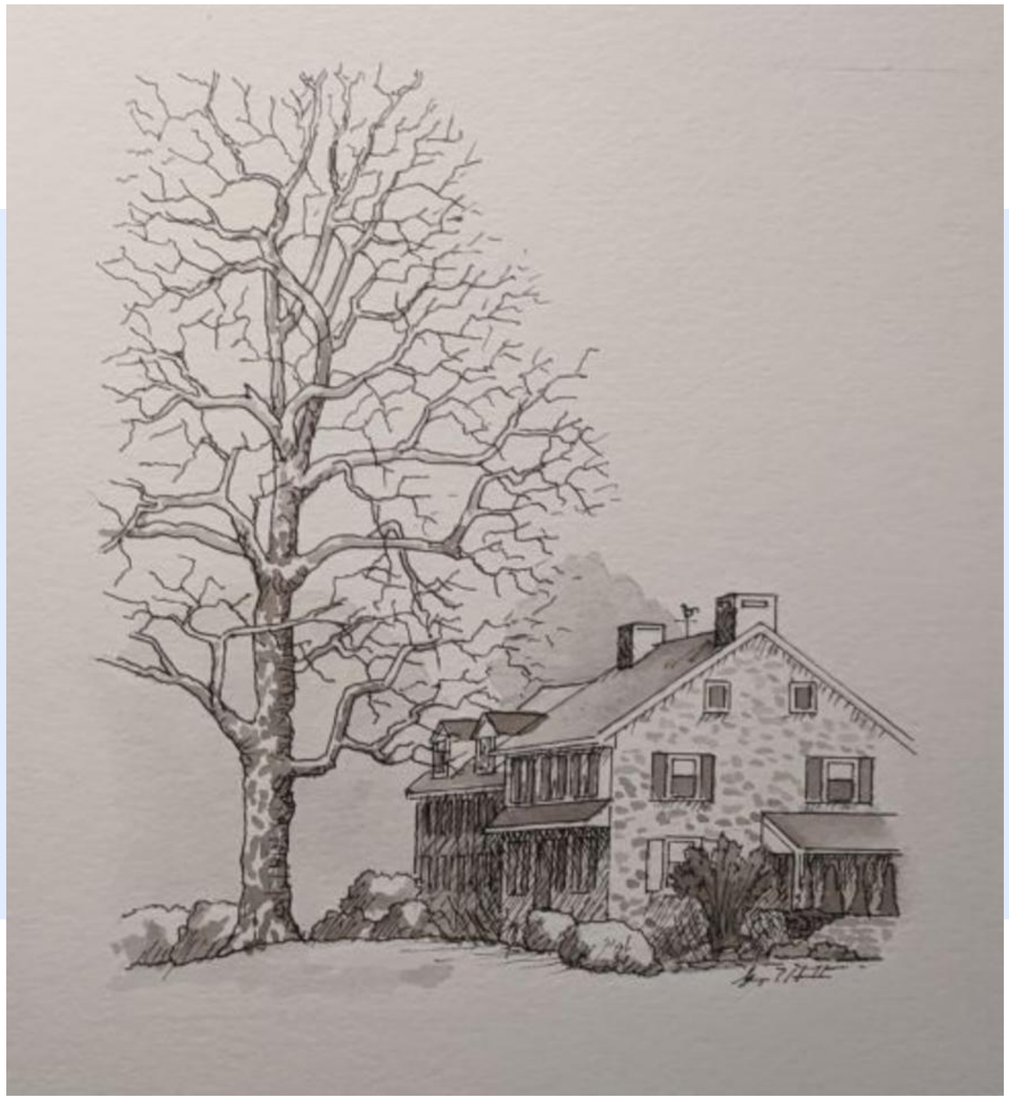
GEORGE HAMILTON

George Hamilton is an artist and illustrator living in the Charlottesville, VA, area. His illustrations focus on pen and ink with watercolor highlights. George's formal art training was at the Tam O' Shanter Art School associated with the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, PA. George recently completed the illustrations for a new book, *American Ramble*, expected to be published in March 2023 (Mariner Books).

In developing an illustration project, George seeks to work closely with the author to capture the essence of a story or to reinforce the writer's message in sketches. His focus is on adult subjects and his work is most often derived from photographs taken by the author.

GEORGE HAMILTON





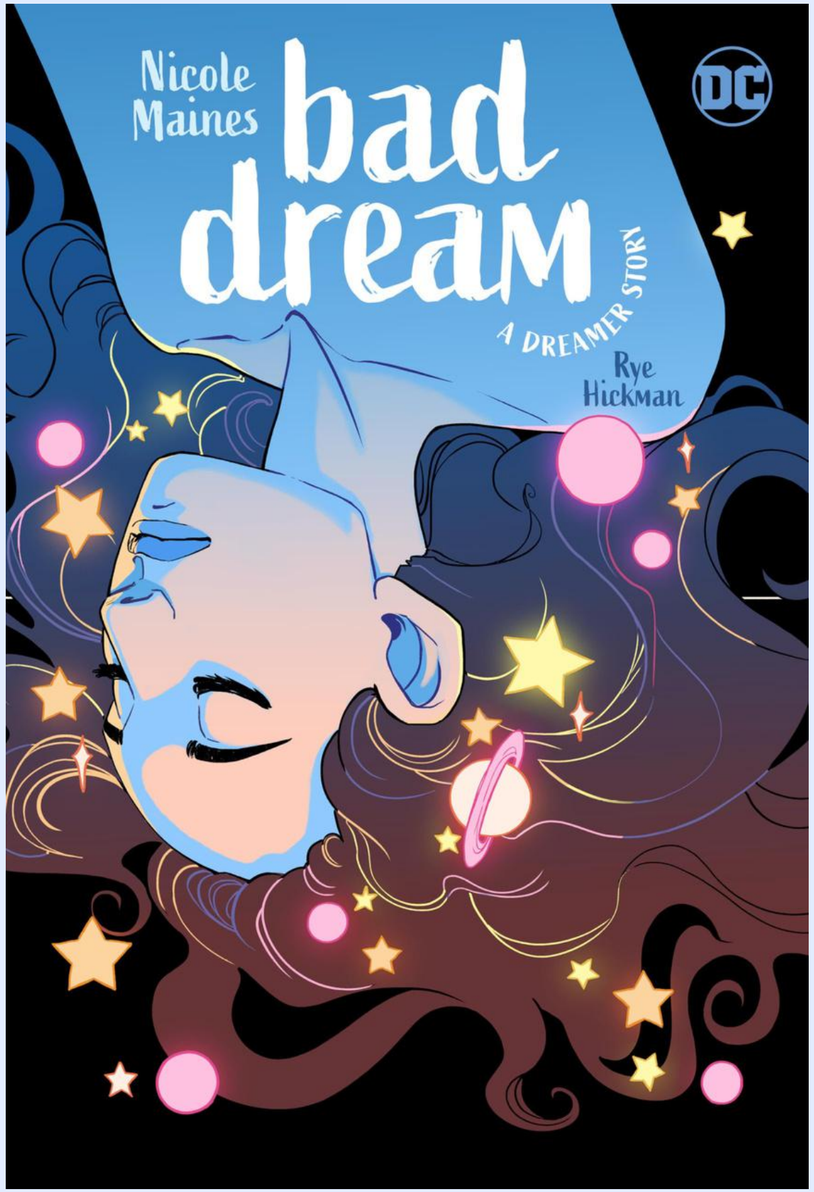
Think of George for...

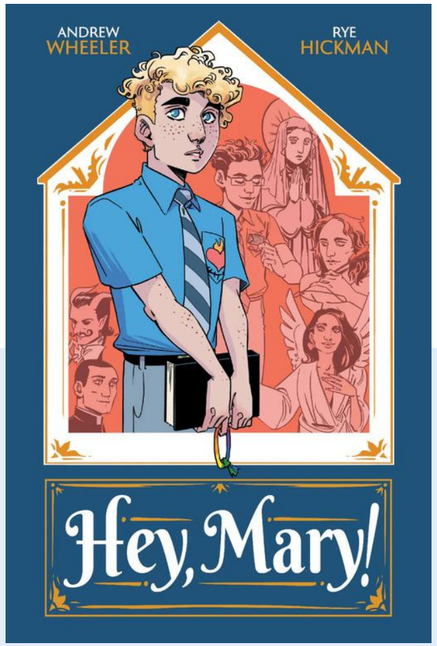
picture books, chapters books, middle grade, adult editorial illustration, illustrations for chapter openers, and interior line illustrations.

Representation: Bridget Wagner Matzie
bmatzie@aevitascreative.com

RYE HICKMAN

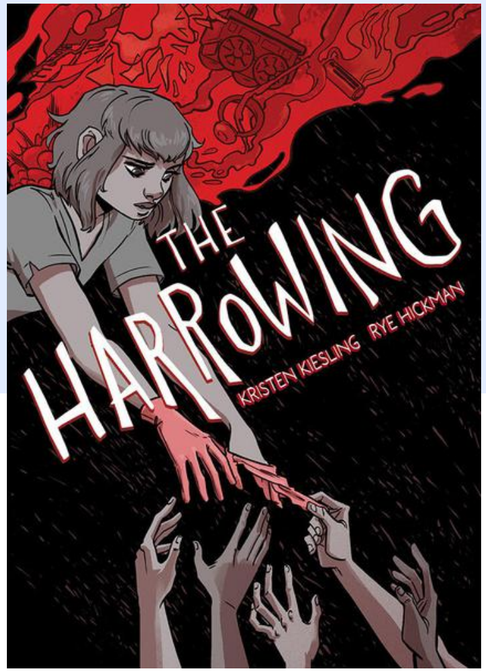
Rye Hickman (previously published as Jen Hickman) is a visual storyteller based out of Denver. Past work includes *The Harrowing*, *Bad Dream*, *Buzzing*, and more. They get really excited about dystopian fiction, good coffee, and drawing hands.



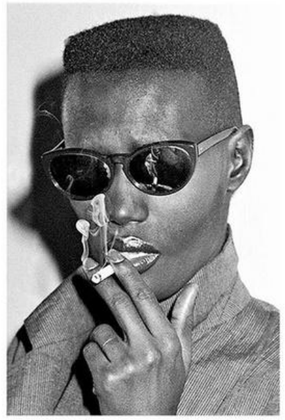

ANDREW WHEELER
RYE HICKMAN
Hey, Mary!

Chur-wa-bby bunny!
We still need the hair of our enemy.
Ye landlubber stole my booty and now ye must swim with the worms.
Walk the plank! G'yaaaarrrrrr.
13

AAAUGHH!
HIGH BEER OR DEAD


THE HARROWING
KRISTEN KIESLING RYE HICKMAN

RYE HICKMAN



Think of Rye for...

graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, young adult, and interior art.

As an illustrator, Rye is very much a jack of all trades, and finds things to enjoy in pretty much everything they draw. They do get very excited to portray specific and strong emotions, as well as natural environments.

Representation: Maeve MacLysaght
mmaclysaght@aevitascreative.com

JON HUBBERT

Based in New York and with an eye for the whimsical and wild. Jon Hubbert is an illustrator with a cartoony style and a wide range of experience. With a background that includes graphic design and animation, his illustration work has been used on numerous platforms such as editorial, narrative, marketing, stories, kids tv, and adult cartoons.

Currently working in the children's broadcast space at Nickelodeon, Jon also illustrates for children's and adult animated content. His professional career started with Graphic Design, creating everything from book design, posters, merchandise, event collateral, branding, typography, and much more. Inspired by skateboard graphics, and cartoons from the 90s and 2000s, he always likes to bring some fun or humor into his work. His diverse experience can be adapted to fit numerous styles and narratives.

JON HUBBERT

Think of Jon for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and animation.

He dabbles in numerous subjects, but loves when he can add some humor or adventure to his work.

Representation: Karen Murgolo
kmurgolo@aevitascreative.com

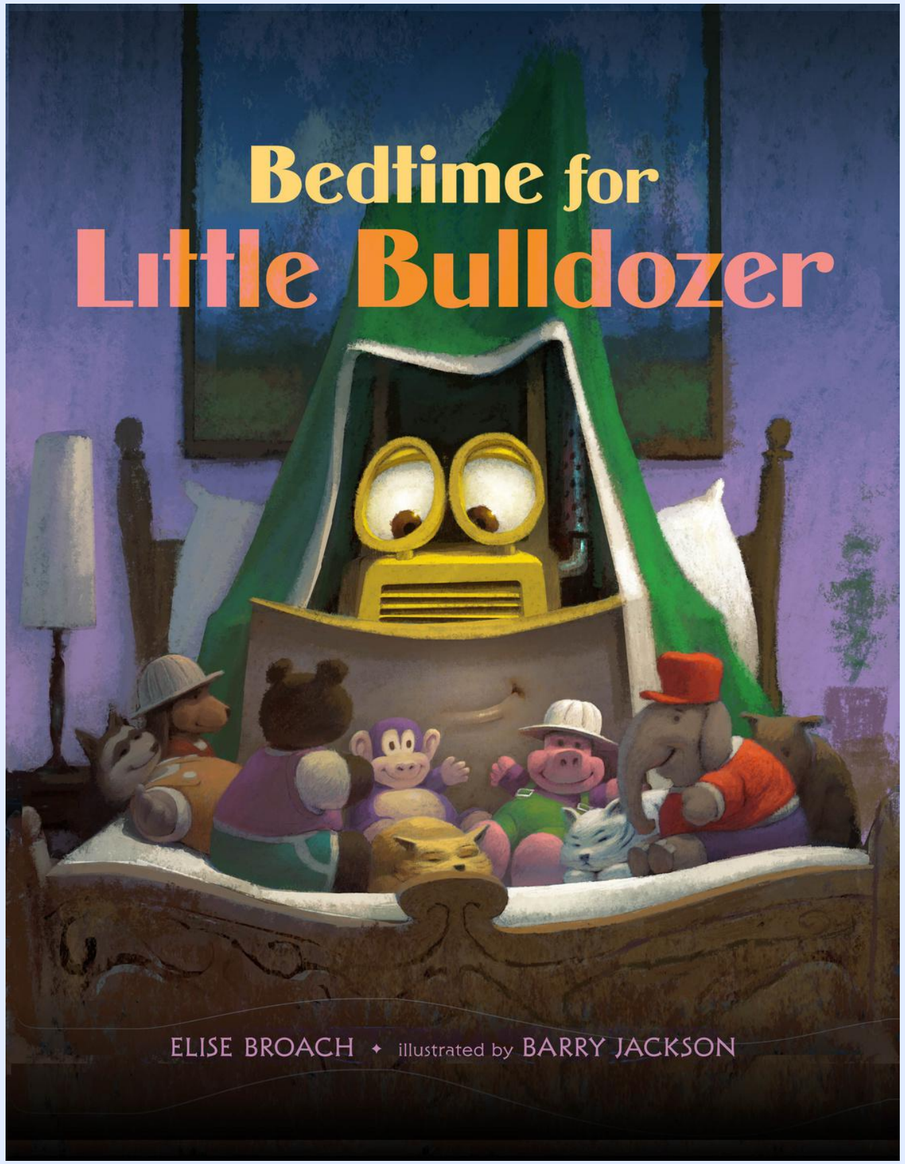
BARRY JACKSON

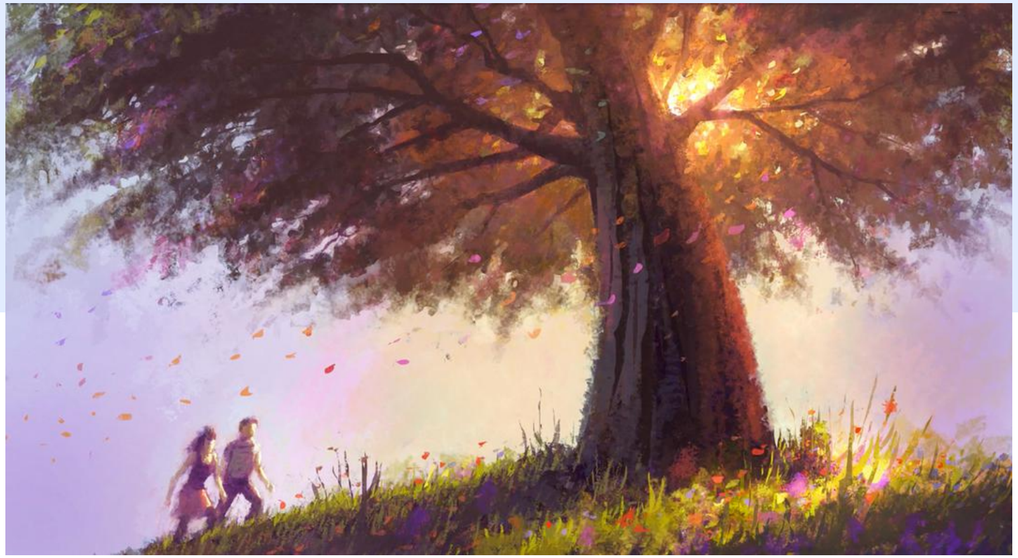
Barry Jackson began his career as an artist working in the record industry for such artists as Neil Young, The Band, ZZtop, and The Grateful Dead. Later he went to animation and earned screen credits for such films as, *Horton Hears a Who, The Nightmare before Christmas, Shrek, The Prince of Egypt,* Ron Howard's *The Grinch,* from Universal*, Sausage Party*, and many more.

Production design credits include the Weinstein's, *Escape from Planet Earth*, and Warner Bros., *The Ant Bully*.

Awards include the 2011 Telly Award and Annie Award nomination for production design on the Cartoon Network CG feature, Firebreather. His animated short film, *The Killer Buzz*, won the Director's Circle Award and numerous others.

Art for opening titles designs include, *The Great and Powerful Oz*, the mini series, *The Leftovers*, and *Mary Poppins Returns*, all done in concert with Yu and Company. Writing credits include his first children's book, *Danny Diamondback*, which along with his screenplay has been optioned as a CG feature.



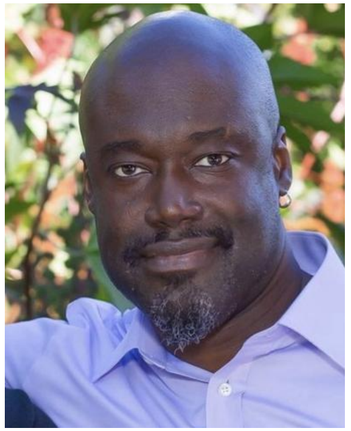


BARRY JACKSON

Think of Barry for...

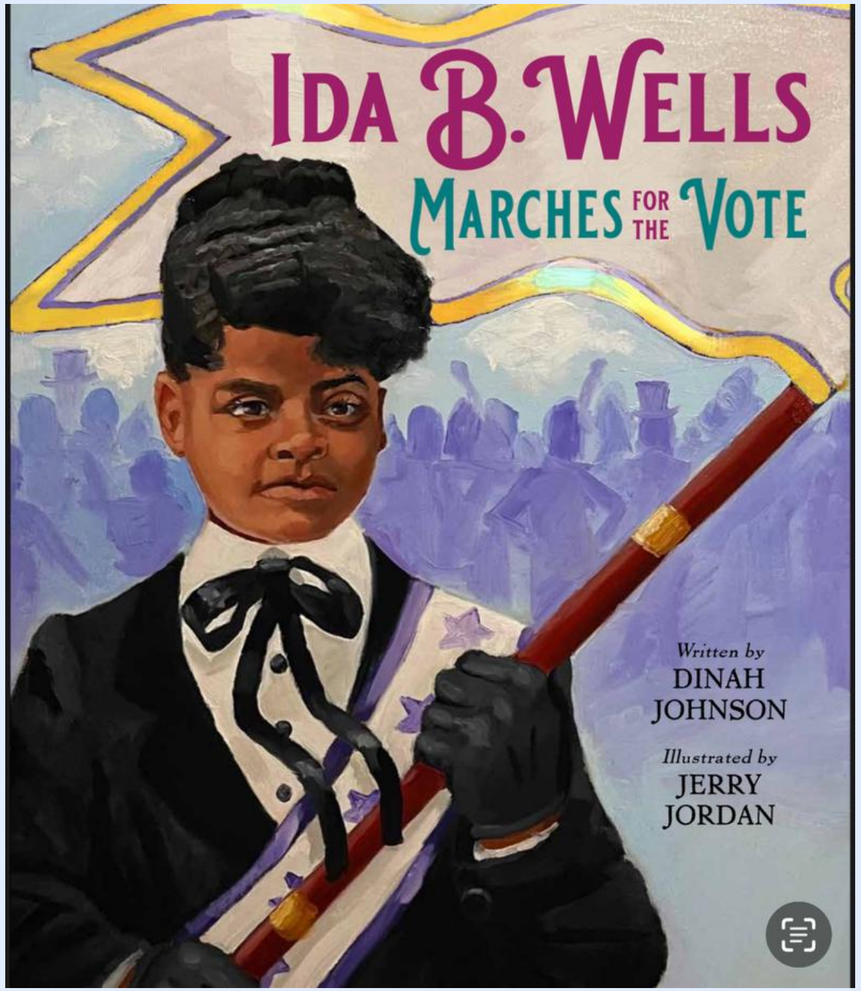
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, animation, and character design.

Representation: Rick Richter
rrichter@aevitascreative.com

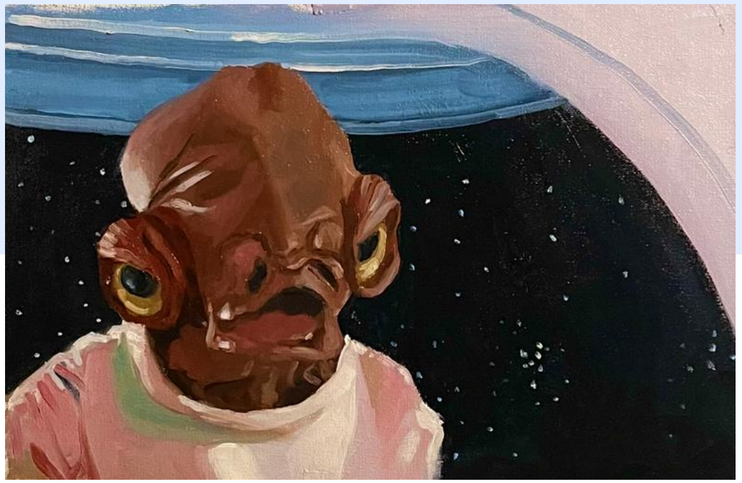


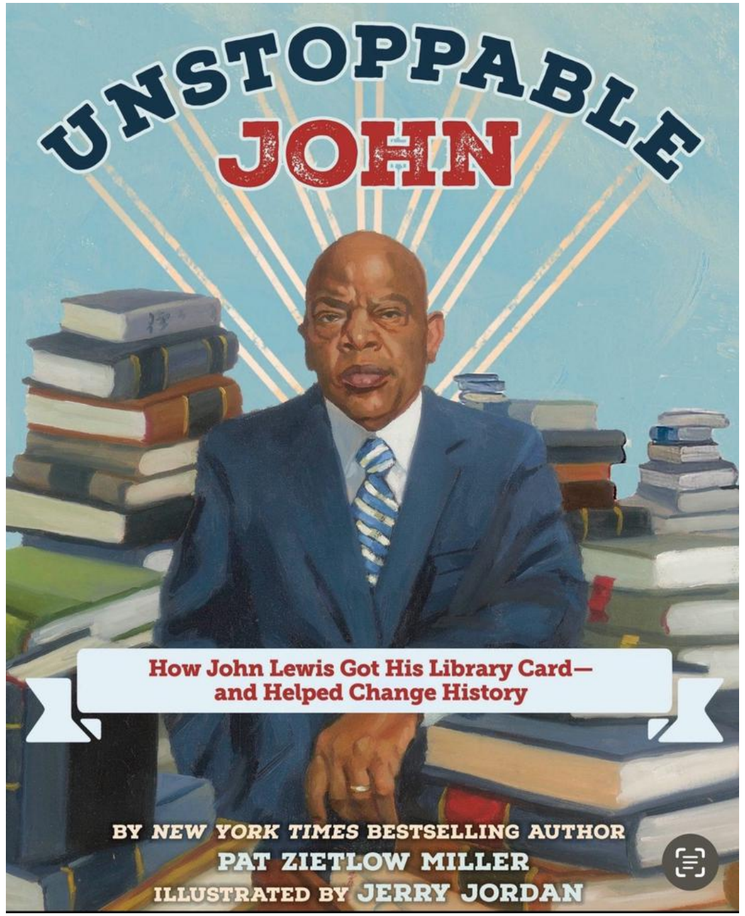
JERRY JORDAN

Jerry Jordan is a painter working in the style of contemporary realism. He counts the unsung artist of the Harlem Renaissance as his artistic role models. He has also been heavily influenced by such artist as John S. Sargent, William M. Chase, and Joaquin Sorolla just to name a few. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Whitewater with a BA in Art, as well as his MS in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Art Education. With a growing body of work, he is quickly becoming a highly sought-after artist. He currently lives in Madison, Wisconsin with his wife Nyra and their two kids.



JERRY JORDAN





Think of Jerry for...

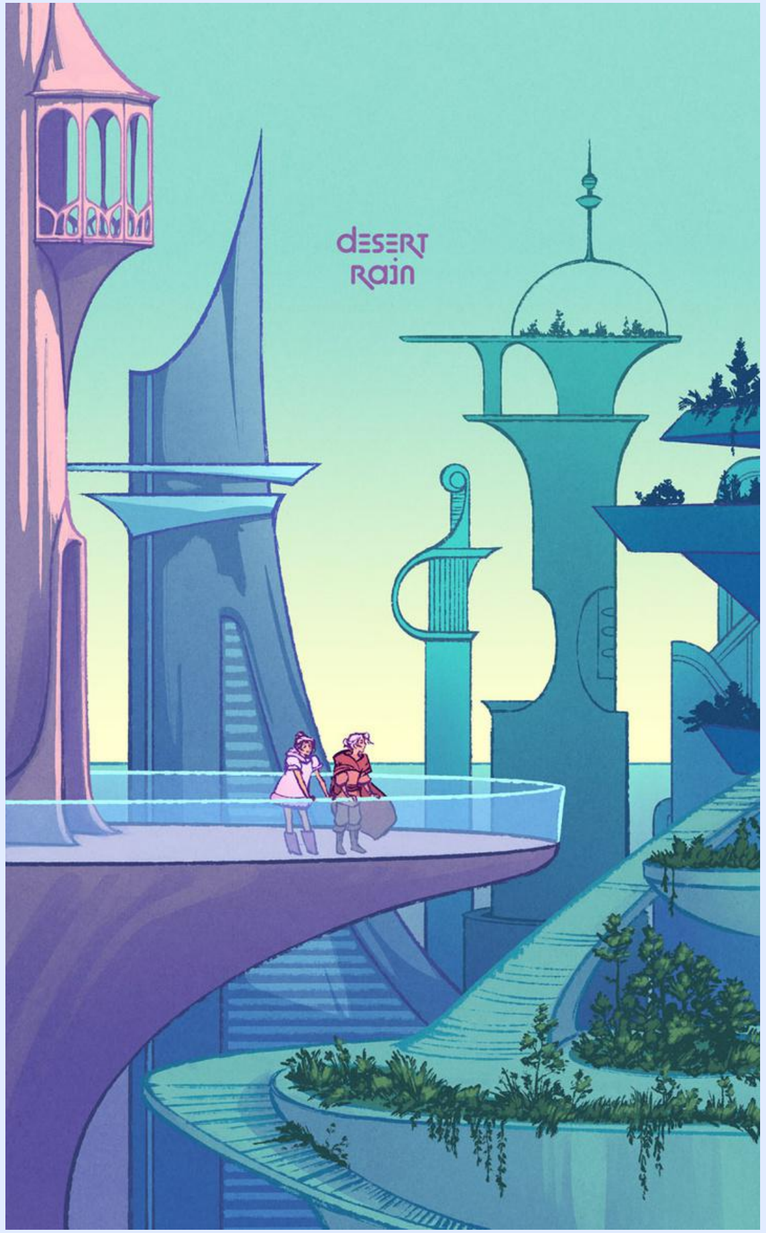
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, adult editorial illustration, graphic novels, and book covers.

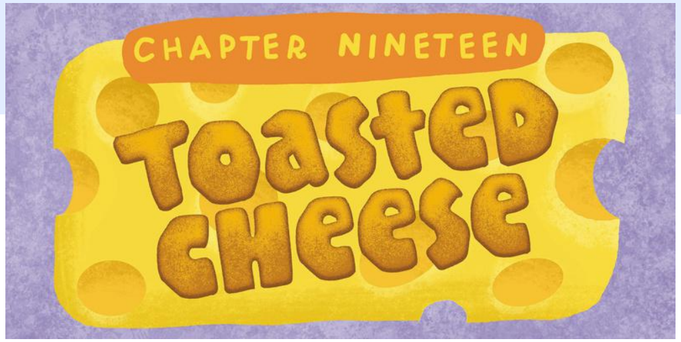
Jerry is open to picture books, b&w/interior, cover, and graphic novel illustration work.

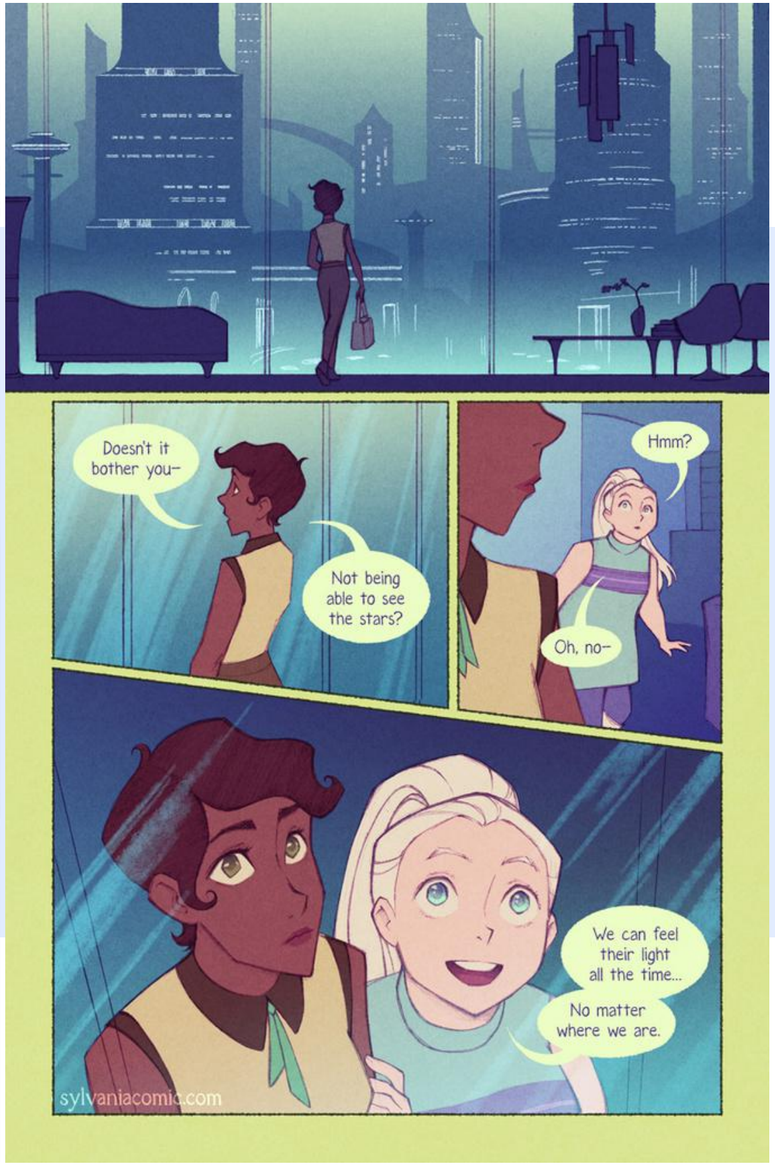
Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

KRISTIN KEMPER

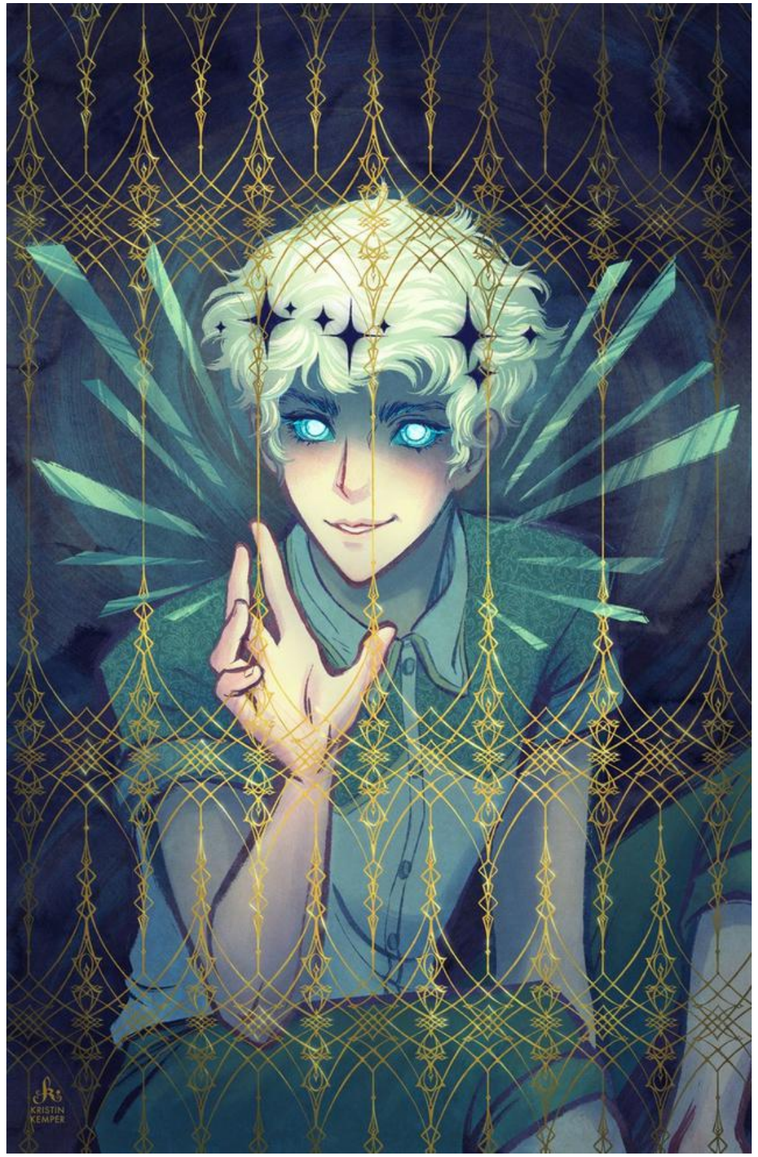
Kristin Kemper is an animator, comic artist, and illustrator who has been drawing and making up stories her entire life. She studied animation at the School of Visual Arts. Her thesis film, *High Tide*, has been viewed over a million times. After graduating, she worked in a few small animation studios in NYC, but gradually found her way into comics. She worked on her own original space fantasy webcomic, *Sylvania*, from 2015 to 2018. In 2017, she wrote and illustrated a short comic for the *Regular Show* comics from Boom! Studios. More recently, she did all the lettering for the four *Geronimo Stilton* graphic novels from Scholastic Graphix. She is currently working on her first published graphic novel, *Desert Rain*, with Top Shelf Comix.







KRISTIN KEMPER



Think of Kristin for...

book covers.

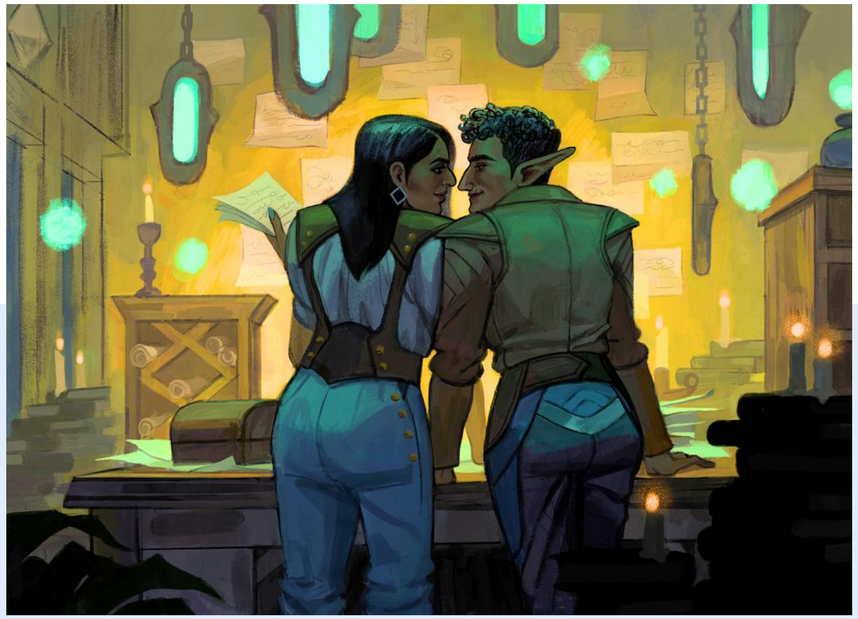
She enjoys botanical and historical fashion illustrations, and is currently interested in illustrating middle grade and young adult book covers.

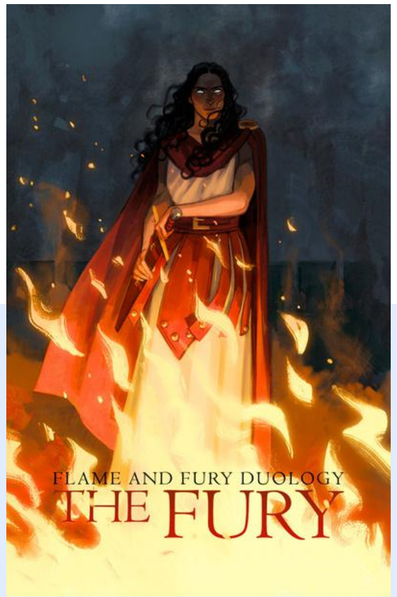
Representation: Erica Bauman
ebauman@aevitascreative.com

MARIANNE KHALIL

Marianne is an NYC-based Coptic writer and illustrator. She is presently an art director for TV animation where she has worked since 2017 on productions such as Disney Jr.'s *Pupstruction*, Jim Henson Company's *Harriet the Spy*, and DreamWorks's *Archibald's Next Big Thing*. Her art and writing center on queer women and their relationships in intimate and fantastical settings.

MARIANNE KHALIL

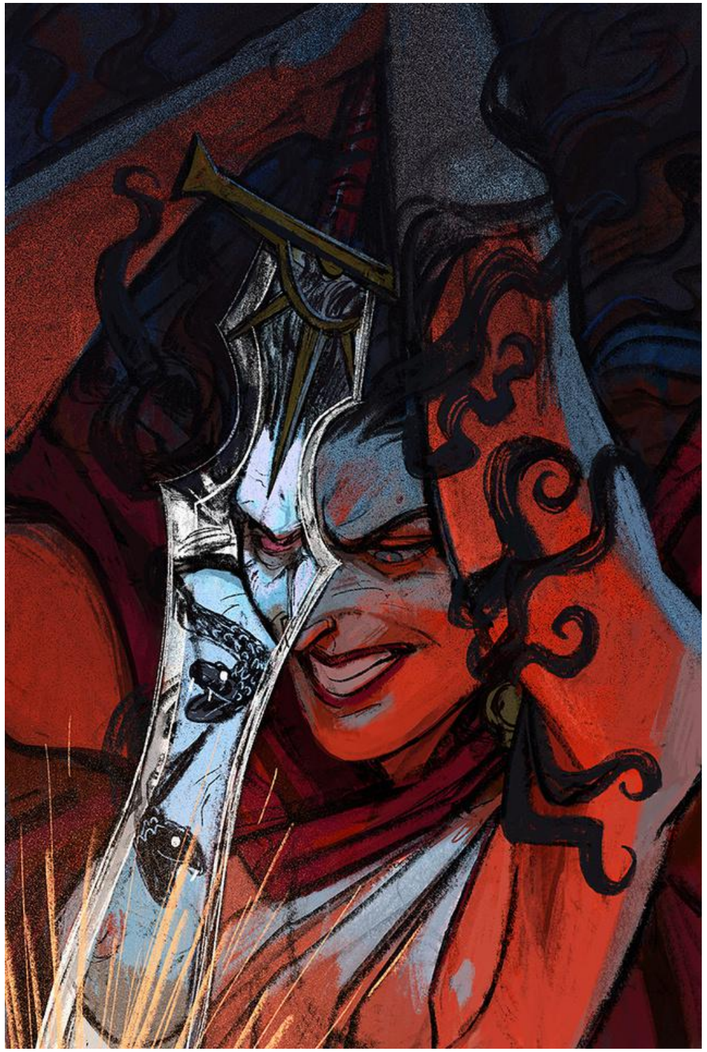




Think of Marianne for...

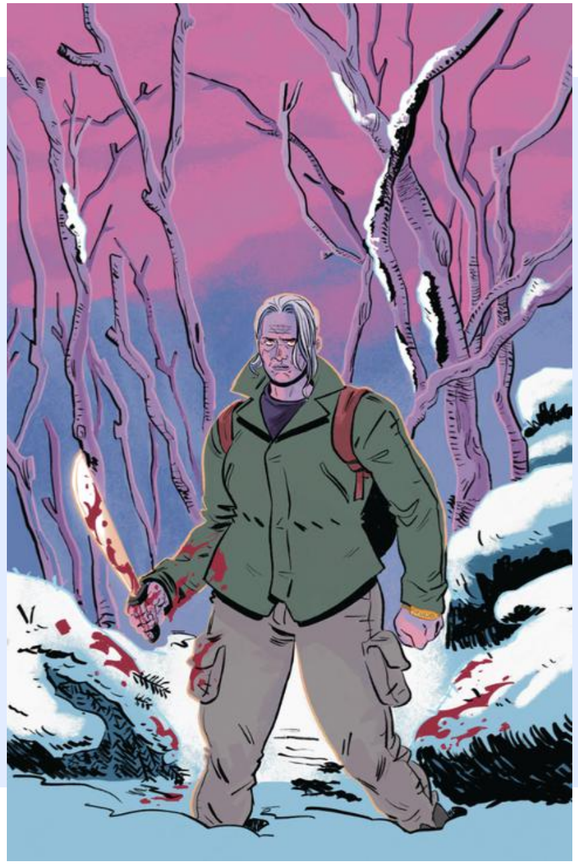
book covers, animation, tabletop and video games, sapphic women, and fantasy worlds.

Representation: Maeve MacLysaght
mmaclysaght@aevitascreative.com



LAUREN KNIGHT

Lauren Knight is a Queer Scottish Comic artist and writer and is the artist/co-creator of *Golden Rage*. She has also worked on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Time Before Time*, and various anthologies such as the Ignatz Nominated *Let Her Be Evi*l. She has worked with Image, BOOM! Studios, IDW, Dark Horse and various indie publishers.



LAUREN KNIGHT

Think of Lauren for...

book covers and graphic novels.

Representation: Maeve MacLysaght
mmaclysaght@aevitascreative.com

ERIN KUBO

Erin Kubo is an illustrator and comic artist whose work features subtly expressive characters, lush environments, and dreamy details rendered in a mixture of watercolor, ink, and digital painting. She was born and raised in New Jersey before moving to Baltimore to study at Maryland Institute College of Art. After earning her BFA in Illustration in 2016, she moved to Seattle where she now resides. She spends her time reading horror stories, petting neighborhood cats, and yearning for perfectly ripe tomatoes.

She has brought a wide range of stories to life, including a comic written by NYT-bestselling author Jordan Ifueko for Jim Henson's *Storytellers* anthology published by BOOM! Studios. Erin's darkly humorous illustrated poem, “The Christmas Creature,” was narrated in a video by NYT-bestselling author Hank Green. Her upcoming graphic novel, *The Empty House*, based on a script by Eisner-nominated author Megan Wagner Lloyd, is slated for publication in the Fall of 2028.

ERIN KUBO

Think of Erin for...

graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, middle grade, and picture books.

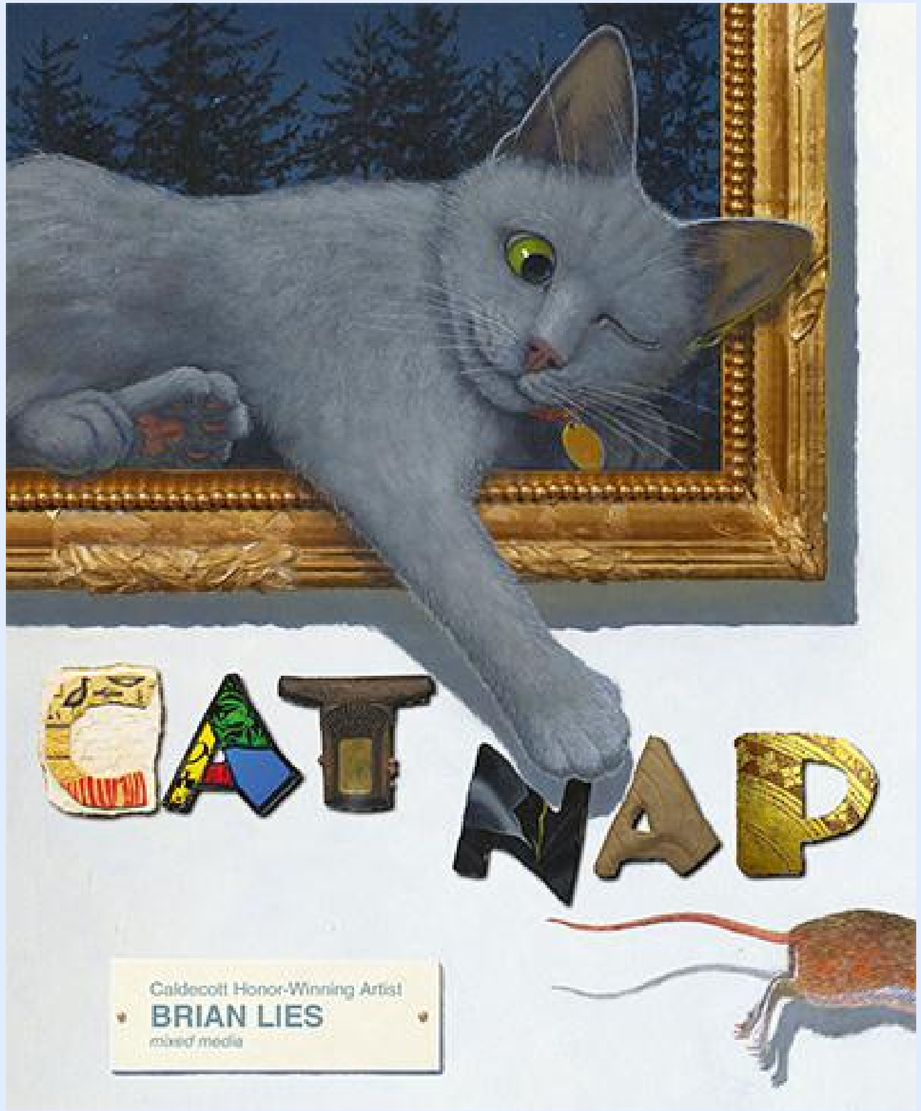
Erin enjoys working on stories that feature a strong mood and room for subtle storytelling. She gravitates toward the strange and mysterious, with a particular interest in dreamlike narratives and horror.

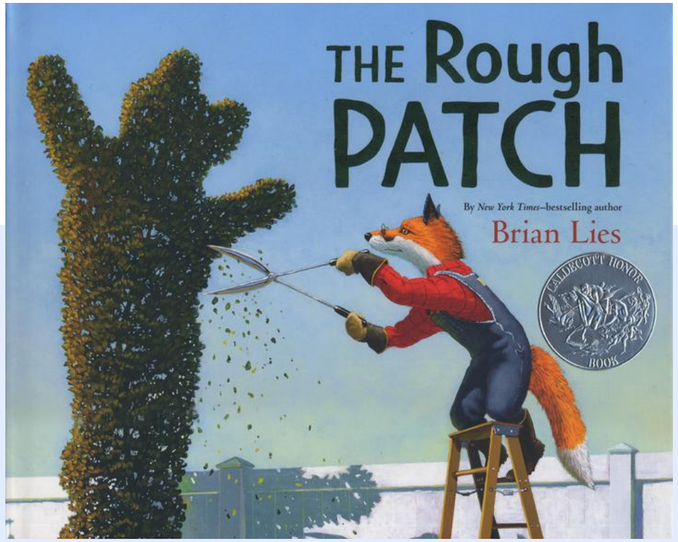
Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

BRIAN LIES

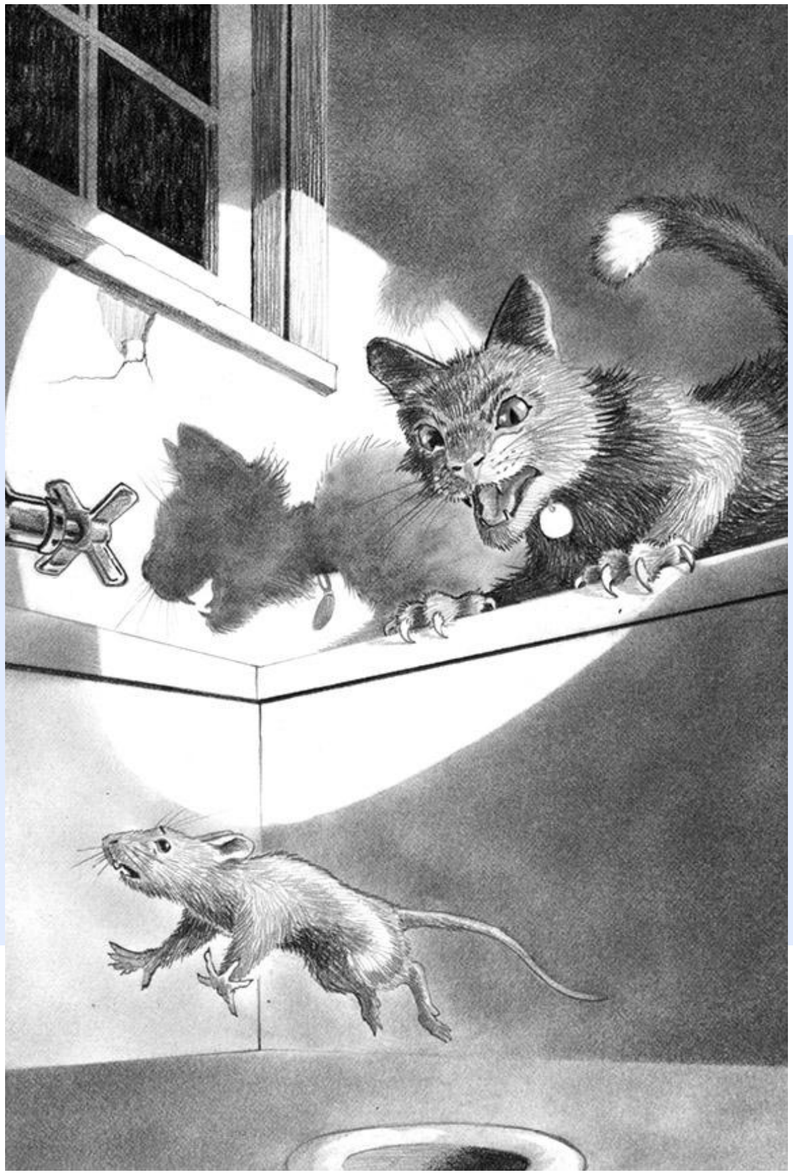
Brian Lies is the author/illustrator of over 30 children's books, including his *New York Times* best-selling bat series (*Bats at the Beach*, etc.), his 2019 Caldecott Honor-winning *The Rough Patch*, and 2025's *Cat Nap*, which has received starred reviews from nearly every review source that offers them. His work in book and editorial illustration has won many awards, and he is acclaimed as a visiting author, working with elementary schools throughout the United States.

He was the featured artist at the 2023 Abilene CALF Festival (www.abileneCALF.org). A graduate of Brown University, Brian lives with his family and two cats in Duxbury, Massachusetts, where he works, tends a large vegetable garden, and enjoys reading, cooking, and woodworking.




THE Rough PATCH
By New York Times–bestselling author
Brian Lies
CALDECOTT HONOR BOOK

Wombat was mistaken.



BRIAN LIES

Think of Brian for...

book covers, picture books, chapter books, middle grade, and adult editorial illustration.

Brian is interested in books featuring animal protagonists, especially ones with a historical or non-classroom setting. He is known for his expression-filled characters, and for filling images with interesting details that keep readers coming back to discover what they missed in previous readings. He is especially interested in stories with heart.

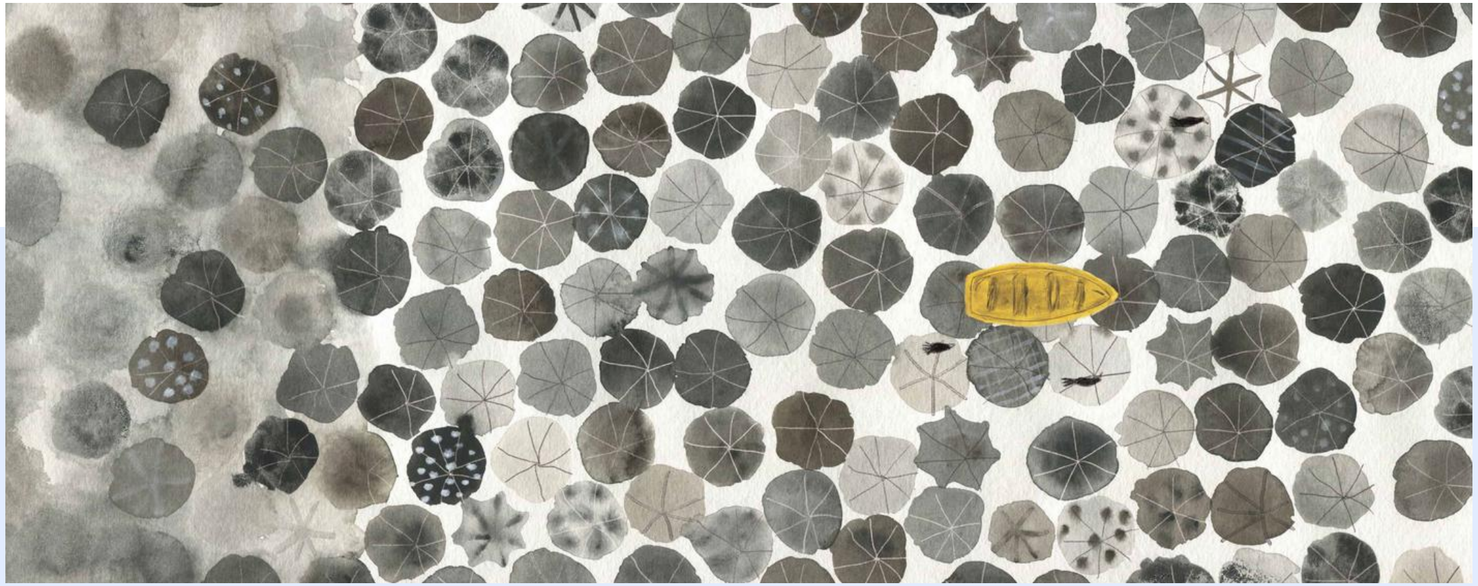
Representation: Erin Murphy
emurphy@aevitascreative.com

AZUL LÓPEZ

Azul López (FKA Andrés López) is a Mexican author and illustrator of picture books. Her books have been published in Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Brazil, Italy, France, Spain, South Korea, The Netherlands, USA, Germany, Greece and Sweden. Her stories and drawings have received multiple international awards. Most recently, she received the International Award for Illustration from the Bologna Children's Book Fair and the Green Island award from the Nami Island International Picture Book Illustration Concours in South-Korea.

Azul uses emotions, memories, and metaphors to tell the stories she imagines. She is happy to collaborate on stories that others imagine, too. When she’s not working at her studio, she likes to walk among flowers, and to spend a lot of time looking at the sky, enjoying how, by just paying attention, we can witness the beautiful wonder of seeing things change. Azul’s US debut will be published by Dial Books for Young Readers.

AZUL LÓPEZ



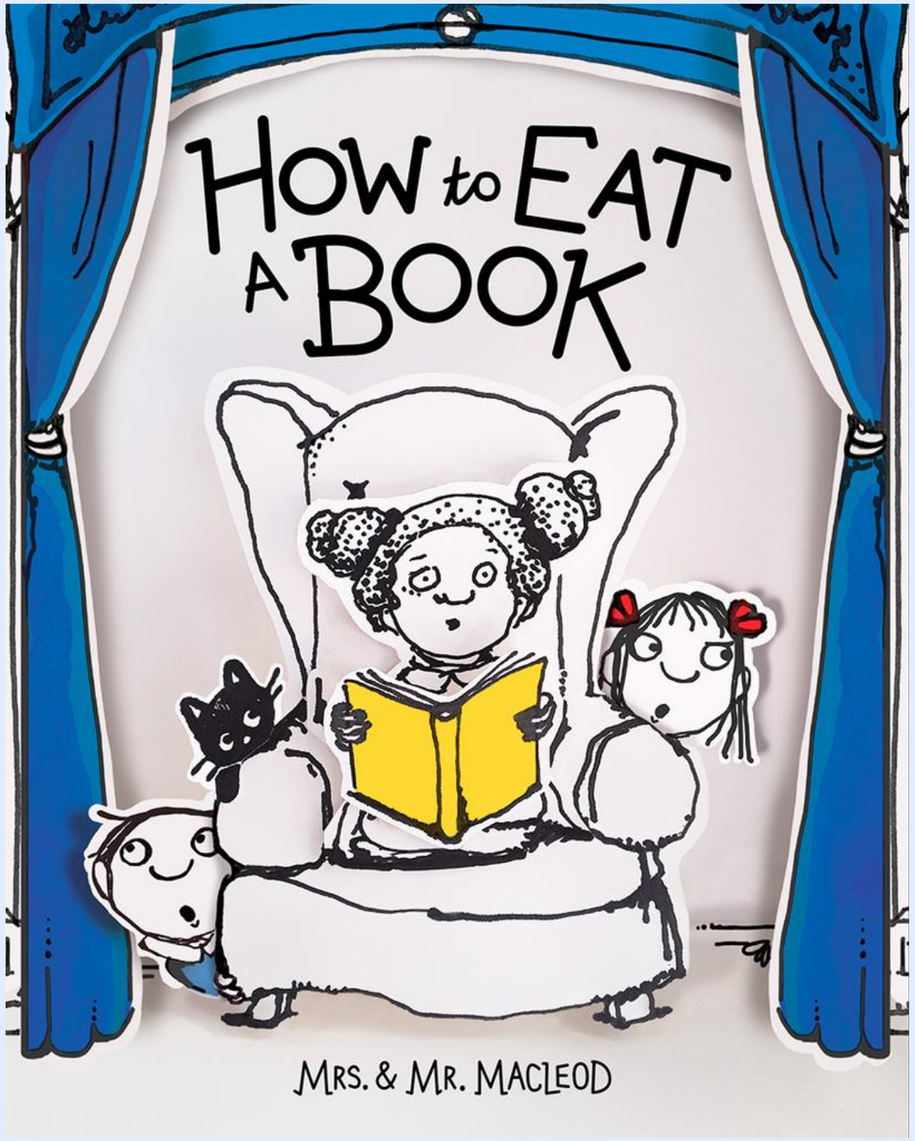
Think of Azul for...

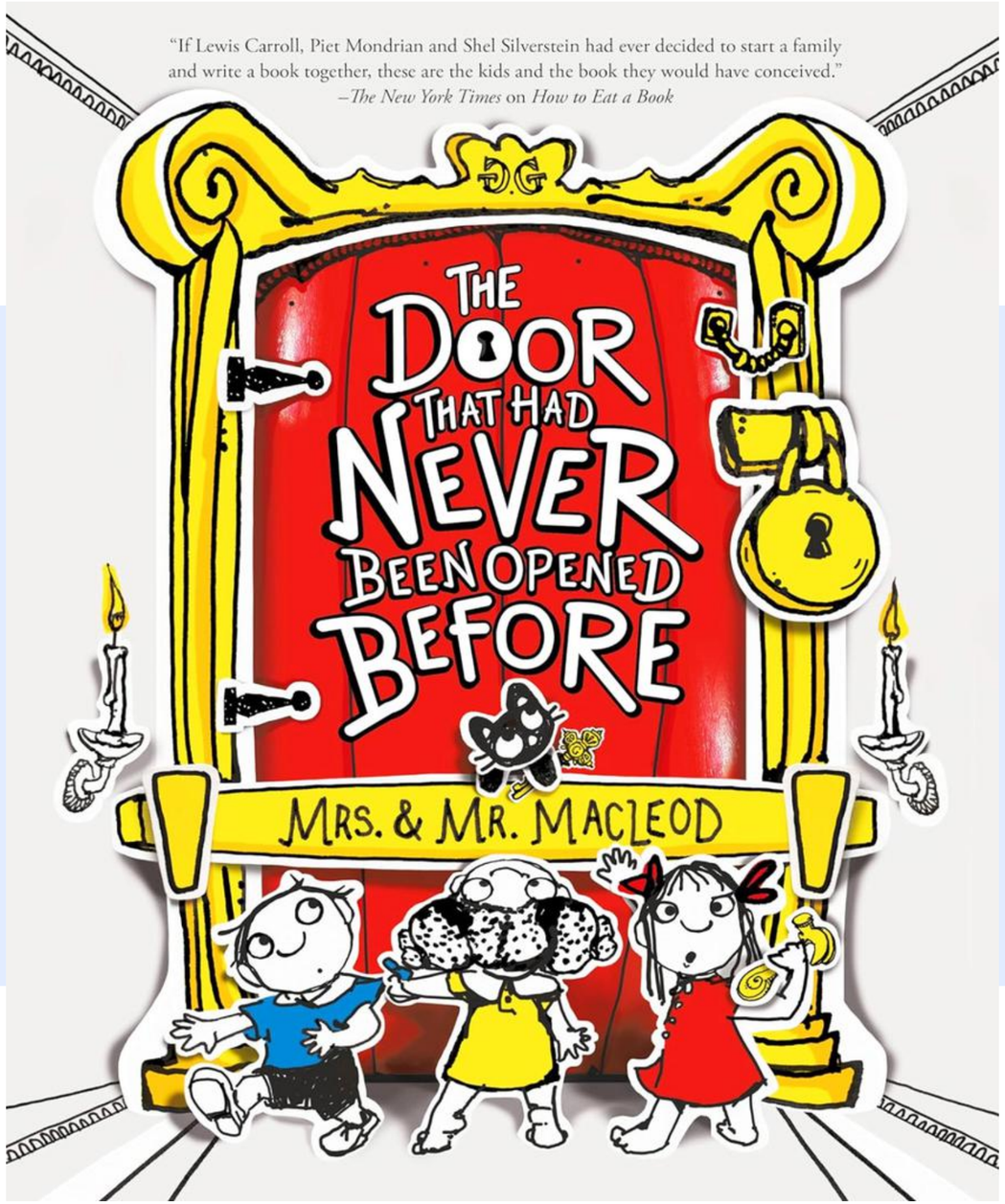
picture books and adult editorial illustration, books that bring together the unexpected—a fierce, scaly animal showing vulnerability, or a big story about the life of a tiny insect. Like an immense collage, Azul enjoys seeing the world through a lens that allows unrelated elements to collide into a story. Her biggest inspiration comes from subjects that don't usually take the spotlight, because she believes they invite readers to examine the world in front of them a little more deeply.

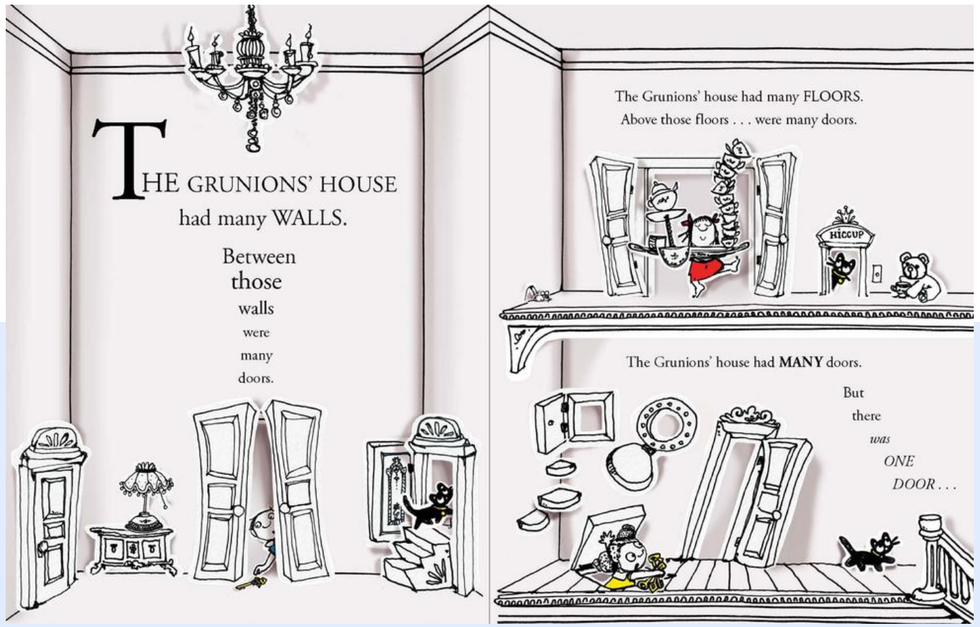
Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

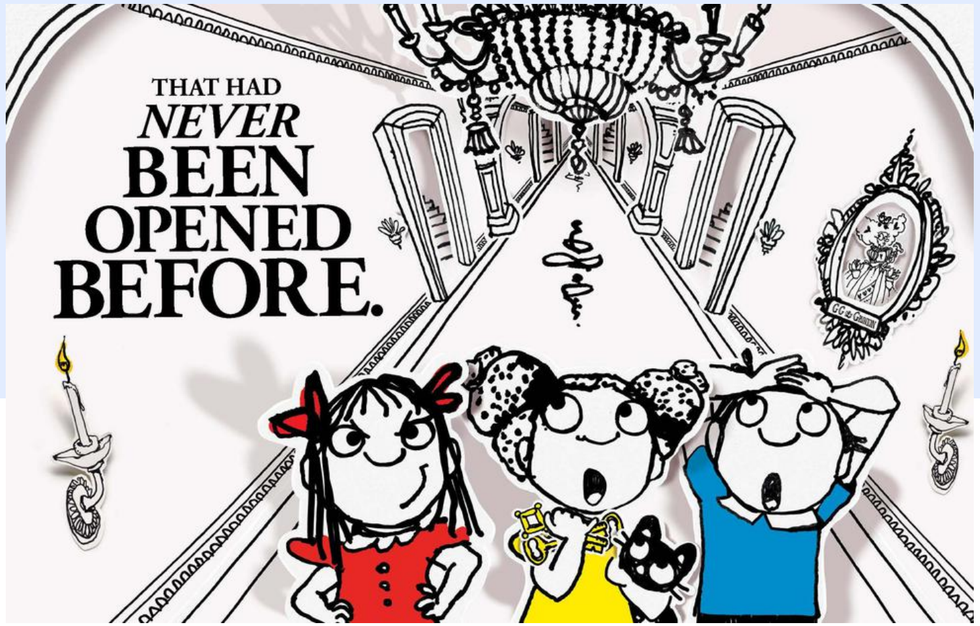
MRS. & MR. MACLEOD

Mrs. & Mr. MacLeod are an award-winning, critically acclaimed picture book author and illustrator, husband and wife team. Their debut, *How to Eat A Book*, won the Barnes & Noble Picture Book of the Year Award in 2023, and was hailed by *The New York Times* as “a time-warping joyride of graphic delight.” *The Door That Had Never Been Opened Before*, and the soon to be released *Birthday Bear* are the next books in the series that follows the curiously twisted adventures of Sheila, Gerald and Gerald's twin sister Geraldine. Mrs. & Mr. MacLeod’s picture books are being devoured by children around the world.

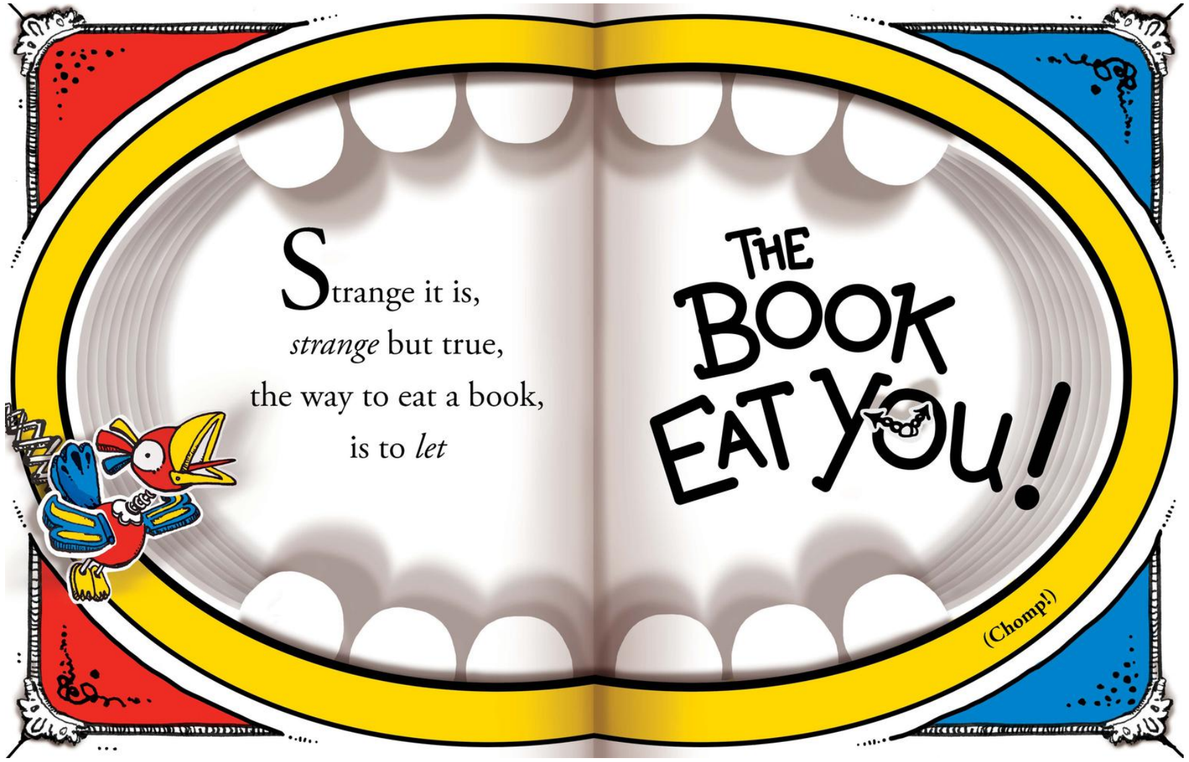








MRS. AND MR. MACLEOD



Think of Mrs. and Mr. MacLeod for...

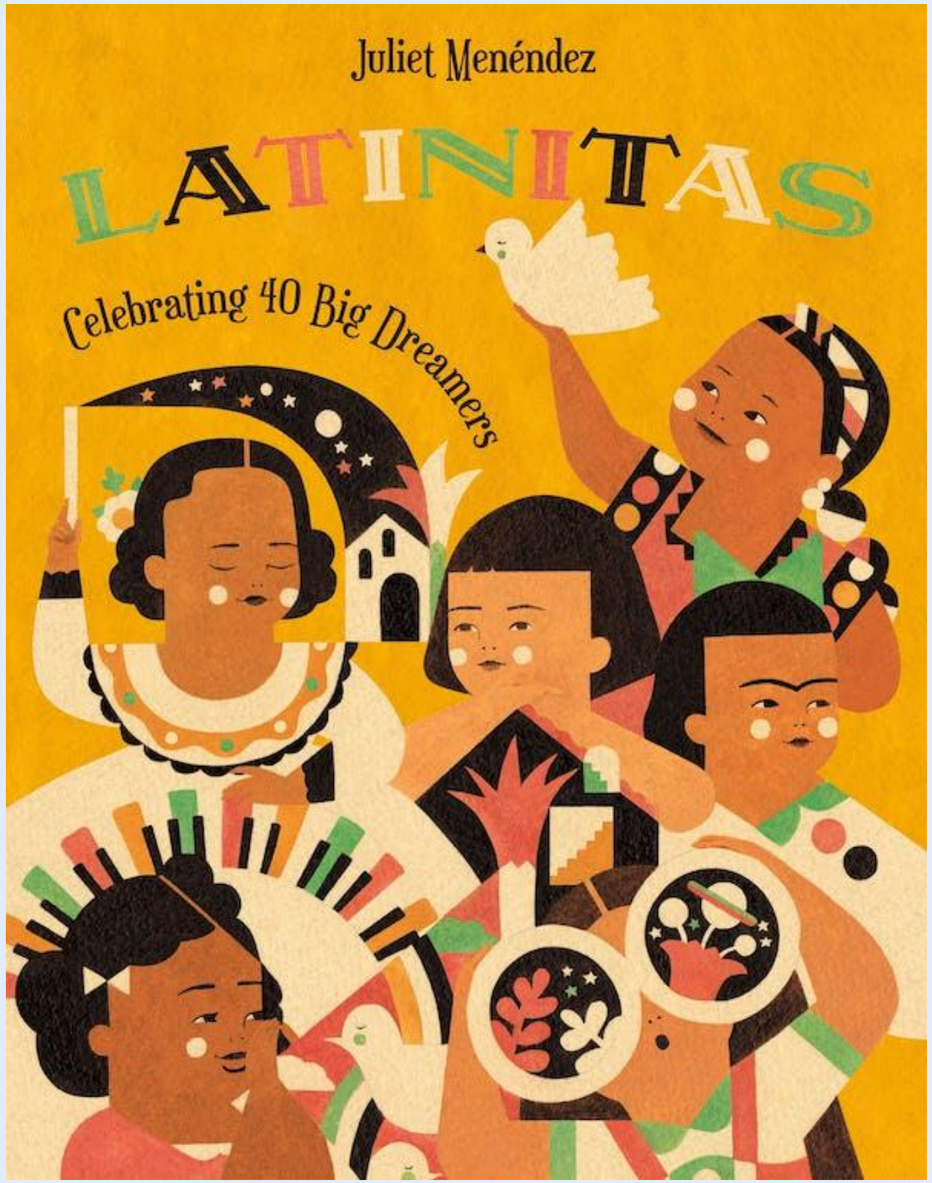
picture books, middle grade, graphic novels, chapter books, animation, adult editorial illustration, and book covers.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

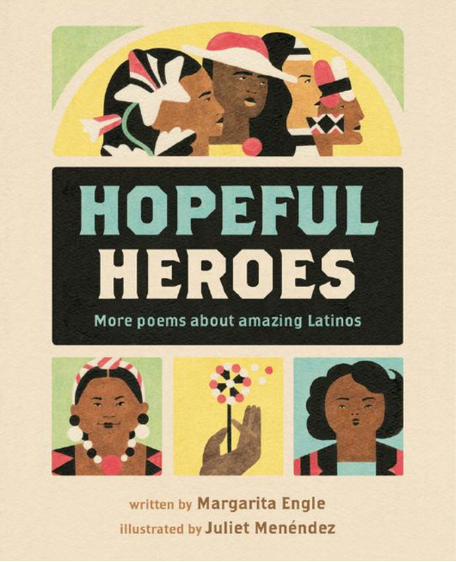
JULIET MENÉNDEZ

Juliet Menéndez is a Guatemalan American author and illustrator living between Guatemala City, Paris, and New York. While working as a bilingual teacher in New York City's public schools, she noted the need for more books that depicted children like the ones in her classrooms. Her illustrated middle grade collection, *Latinitas: Celebrating 40 Big Dreamers* (Laura Godwin Books) was awarded an NCTE Orbis Pictus Honor, named a Best Book of the Year by Bank Street College and A Mighty Girl, and was on the recommended list Rise: A Feminist Book Project, among others. *Latinitas* is available in Spanish as *Latinitas: Una celebración de 40 soñadoras audaces*, and on a board book edition titled *Dream with the/Sueña con las Latinitas*. Most recently she illustrated *Skyscraper Babies* by April Sayre and Jeff Sayre (Laura Godwin Books), and *Hopeful Heroes*, by Newbery Honoree Margarita Engle. Juliet's picture book debut as author and illustrator, is forthcoming from Laura Godwin Books.

Juliet was a featured artist on the Society of Illustrators' Original Art show and is a guest contributor on Eric Carle and Friends' picture book volume *What's Your Favorite Food?* (Henry Holt BYR). She studied design and illustration in Paris and now spends her days with her watercolors and notebook.



JULIET MENÉNDEZ



Think of Juliet for...

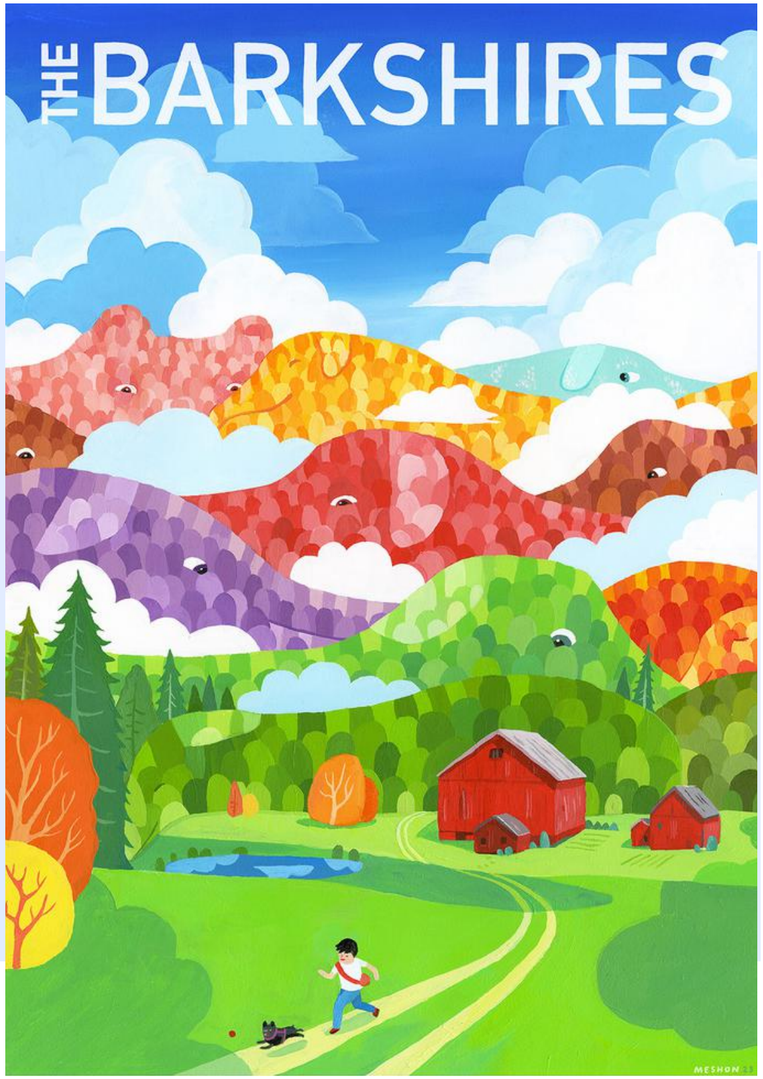
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

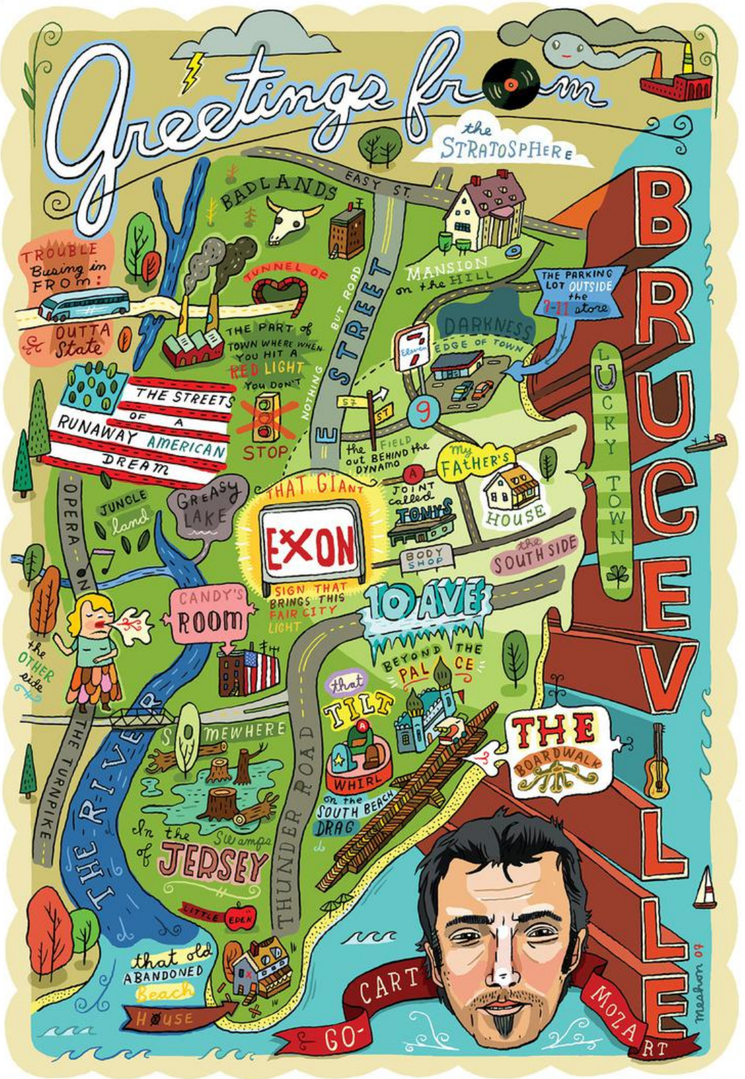
Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

AARON MESHON

Aaron Meshon illustrates and designs for magazines, advertisements, children's products, murals, and books that can be found all over the world. Aaron's first children's book: *Take Me Out to the Yakyu* was on the New York Times top 100 of 2013 and received 4 starred reviews. Aaron has also written and illustrated *Tools Rule!*, *The Best Days Are Dog Days*, *Delivery* and *Now That I'm Here*. Aaron also illustrated *Tomorrow is Waiting* written by Kiley Frank.

Aaron teaches illustration at The School of Visual Arts in New York City, and has also been a guest illustration lecturer at RISD, MICA, UArts, SVA, FIT and NHIA. Aaron currently lives with his wife, and son in the lovely Berkshires in Western Massachusetts.





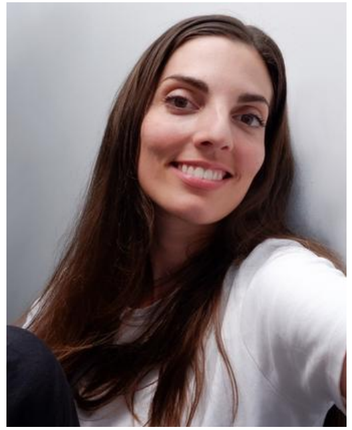
AARON MESHON

Think of Aaron for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, animation, murals, food trucks, store design, display design, and children's products.

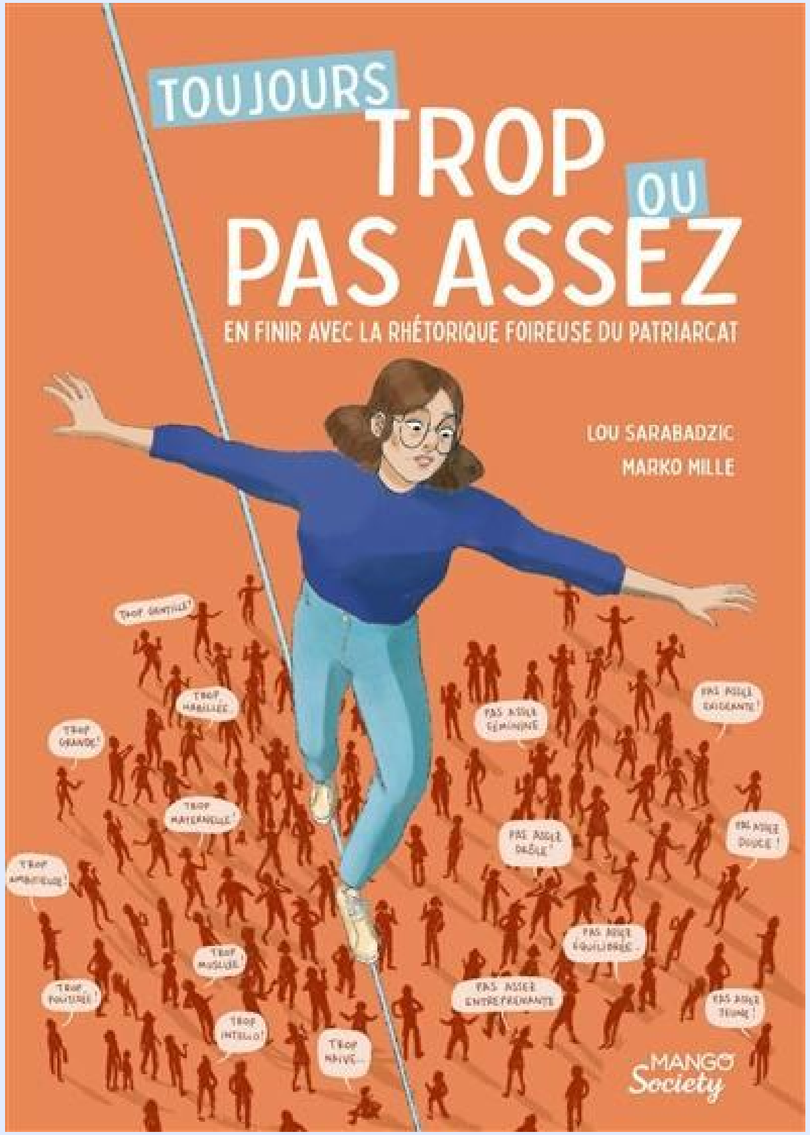
Aaron’s favorite things to draw are French bulldogs, hot springs, automobiles, lemons and limes and... French bulldogs. He uses storytelling to share life's ups and downs with humor and compassion.

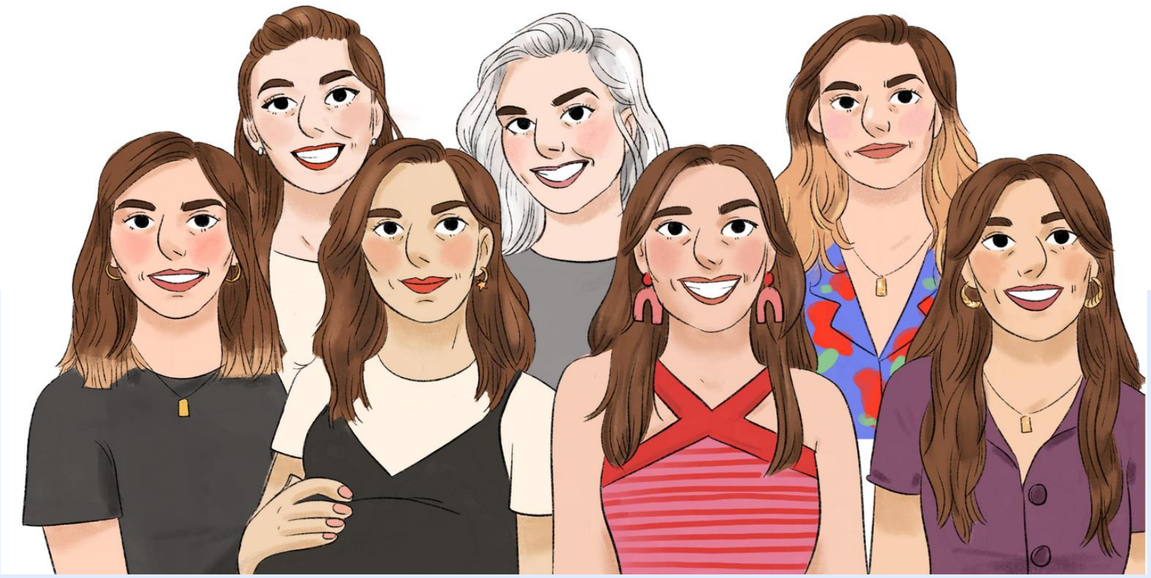
Representation: Rubin Pfeffer, Amy Thrall Flynn
rpfeffer@aevitascreative.com, aflynn@aevitascreative.com

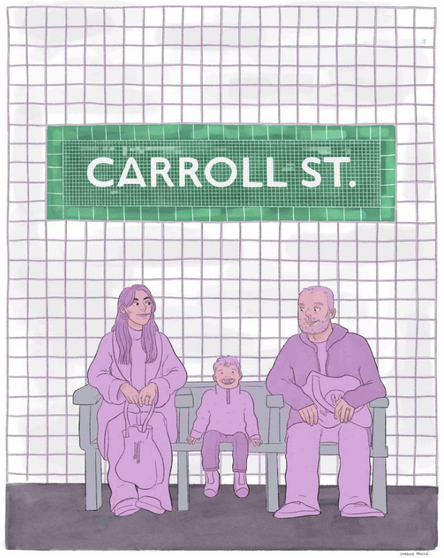


MARKO MILLE

Claire Markovic, who works under the name Marko Mille, is a french illustrator currently based in Montreal after having lived in New York. Before becoming a full time illustrator, she used to work in a hospital as a radiology technologist. She now draws primarily using digital media, creating illustrations rooted in everyday life. She is particularly drawn to collaborations highlighting the work of women writers, scientists and researchers. Through her illustrations, Marko Mille seeks to convey a better understanding of concepts as well as random moments of life with sensitivity. Her work can be found on her website and on her instagram account.

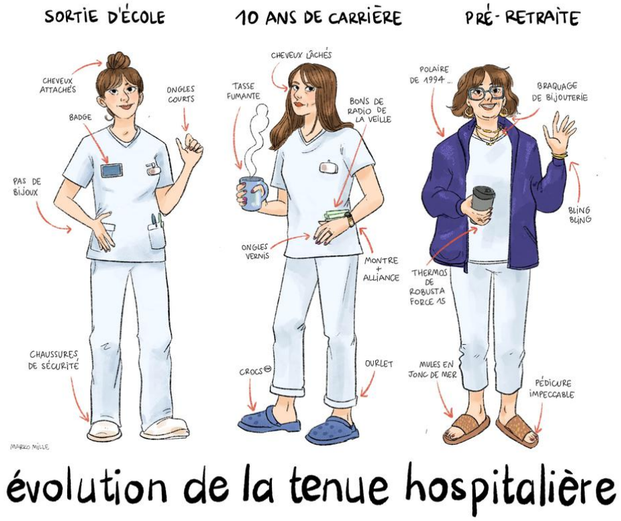





CARROLL ST.

Subway
Smith Street
Smith Street

SHIELDS
269
MALAI
MALAI


SORTIE D'ÉCOLE
10 ANS DE CARRIÈRE
PRÉ-RETRAITE
CHEVEUX ATTACHÉS
ONGLES COURTS
BADGE
PAS DE BIJOUX
CHAUSSURES DE SÉCURITÉ
CHEVEUX LÂCHÉS
TASSE FUMANTE
BONS DE RADIO DE LA VIEILLE
ONGLES VERNIS
MONTRE + ALLIANCE
CROCS
OURLET
POLAIRE DE 1994
BRAQUAGE DE BIJOUTERIE
BLING BLING
THERMOS DE ROBUSTA FORTE 15
MULES EN JONC DE MER
PÉDICURE IMPECCABLE
évolution de la tenue hospitalière

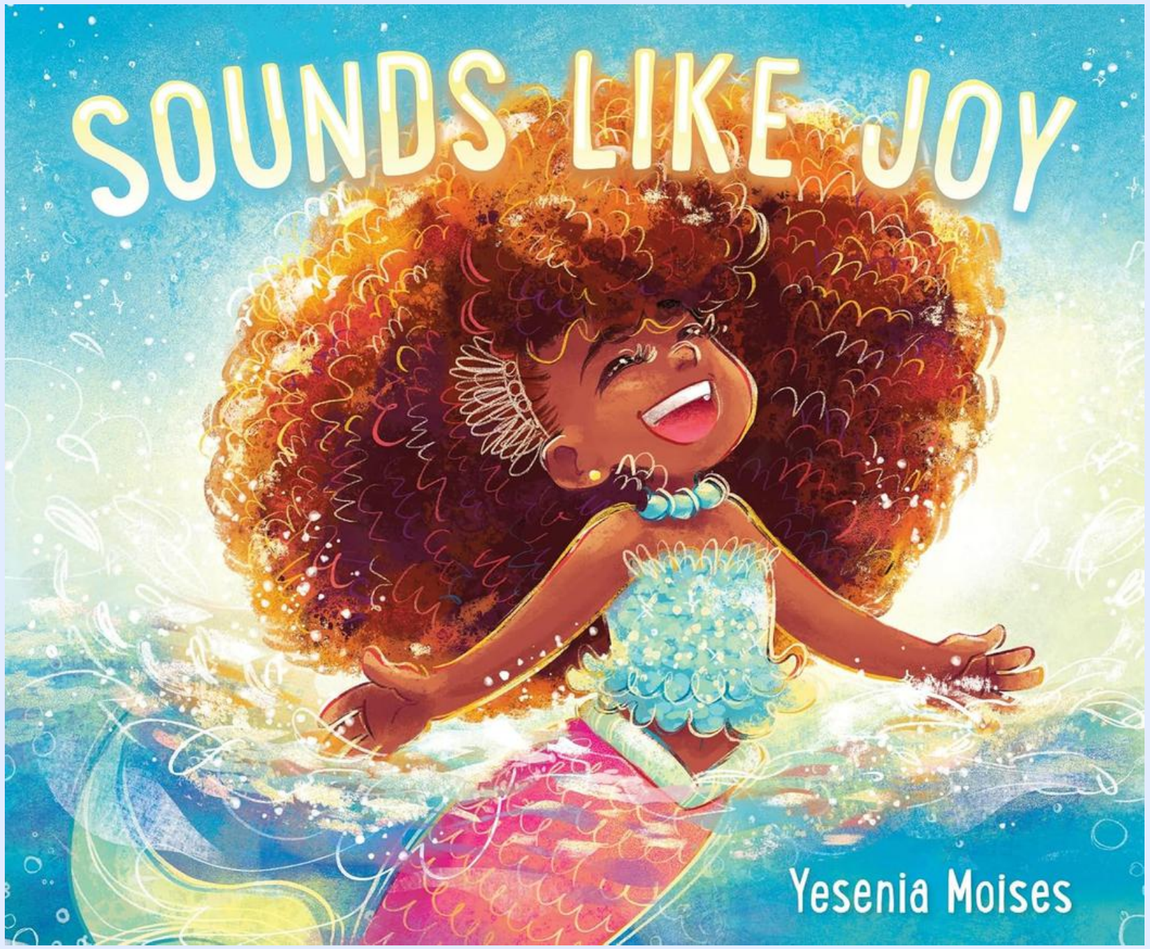
Think of Marko for...

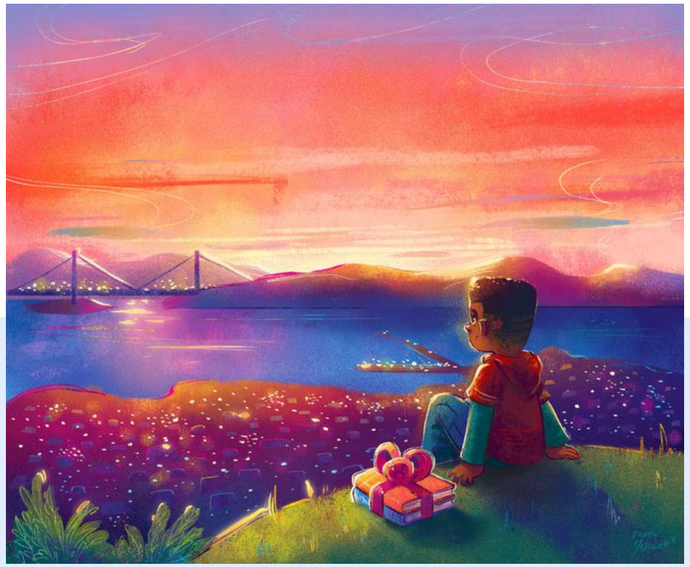
adult editorial illustration, book covers, and graphic novels.

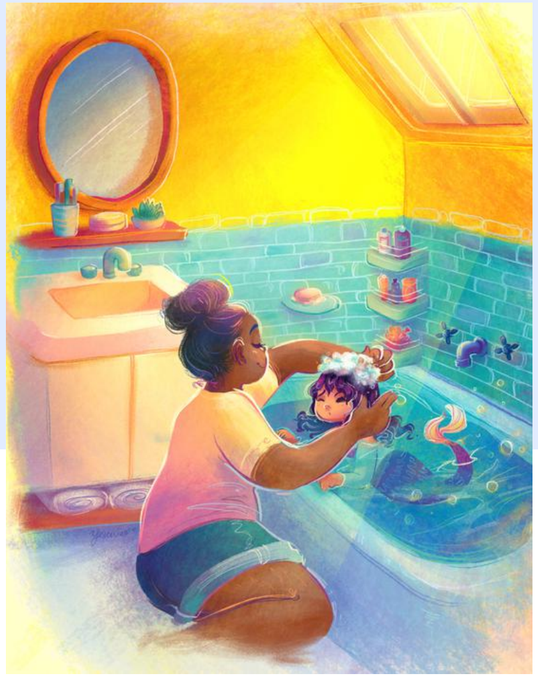
Representation: Julie Finidori
jfinidori@aevitascreative.com

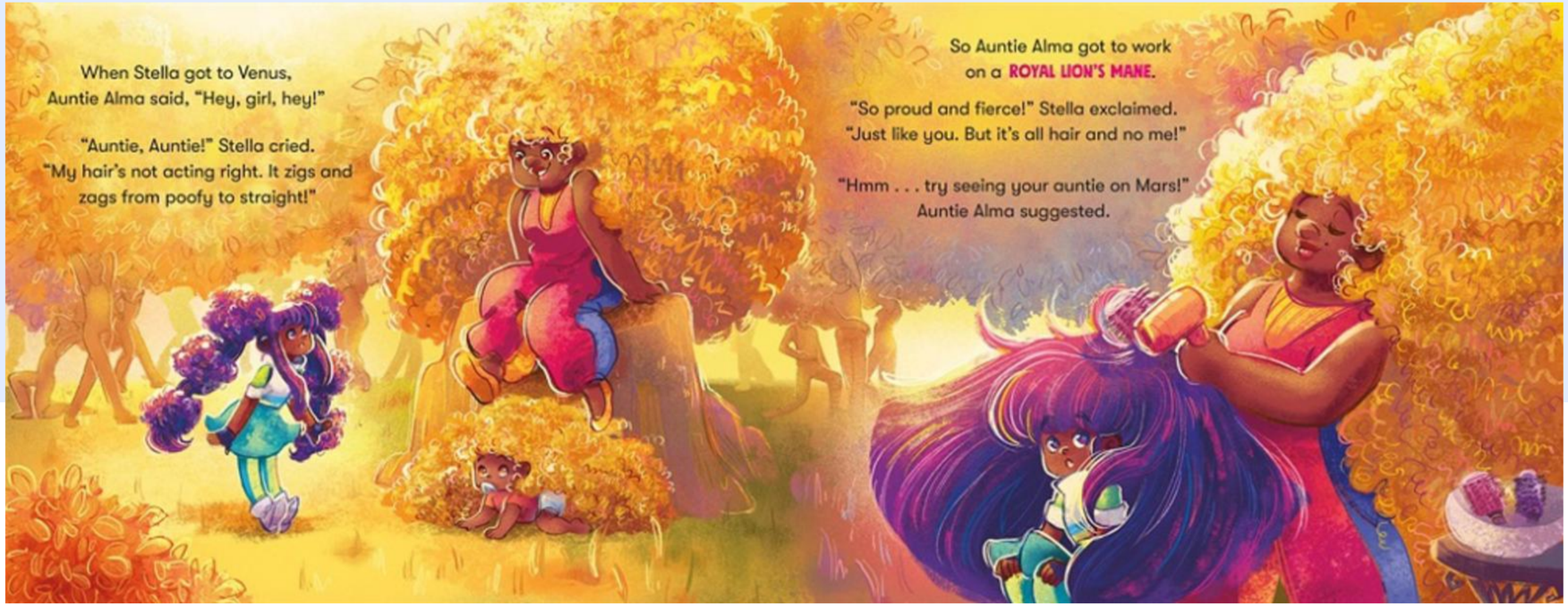
YESENIA MOISES

Yesenia Moises is an Afro-Latina Author, Illustrator, and Toy Designer. She uses her colorful illustrations and whimsical designs to create wonder and magic for young readers. Kirkus described her debut picture book, *Stella's Stellar Hair* (Imprint, 2021) as "an innovative, refreshing, out-of-this-world tale about the incredible versatility of afro hair" in their starred review, and it was an Amazon Editor's Pick, as well as one of Parents magazine's Best Children's Books of 2021. Yesenia also serves as illustrator for Tennis Olympian Serena Williams' *The Adventures of Qai Qai* (Feiwel & Friends, 2022), which received praise from Booklist as "[f]illed with richly colored illustrations that see a preponderance of velvety purples and pinks, this book will particularly catch the eye of dancers and the Fancy Nancy set." Her work has been featured on Buzzfeed, SyFy, MSNBC, CNN, WNYC, and on the pages of publishers like DC and Image. In a time when the world can be a scary place, she wants it to be filled with big hair, bright colors, and lots of sazón from the heart!









YESENIA MOISES

Think of Yesenia for...

picture books, board books, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and animation.

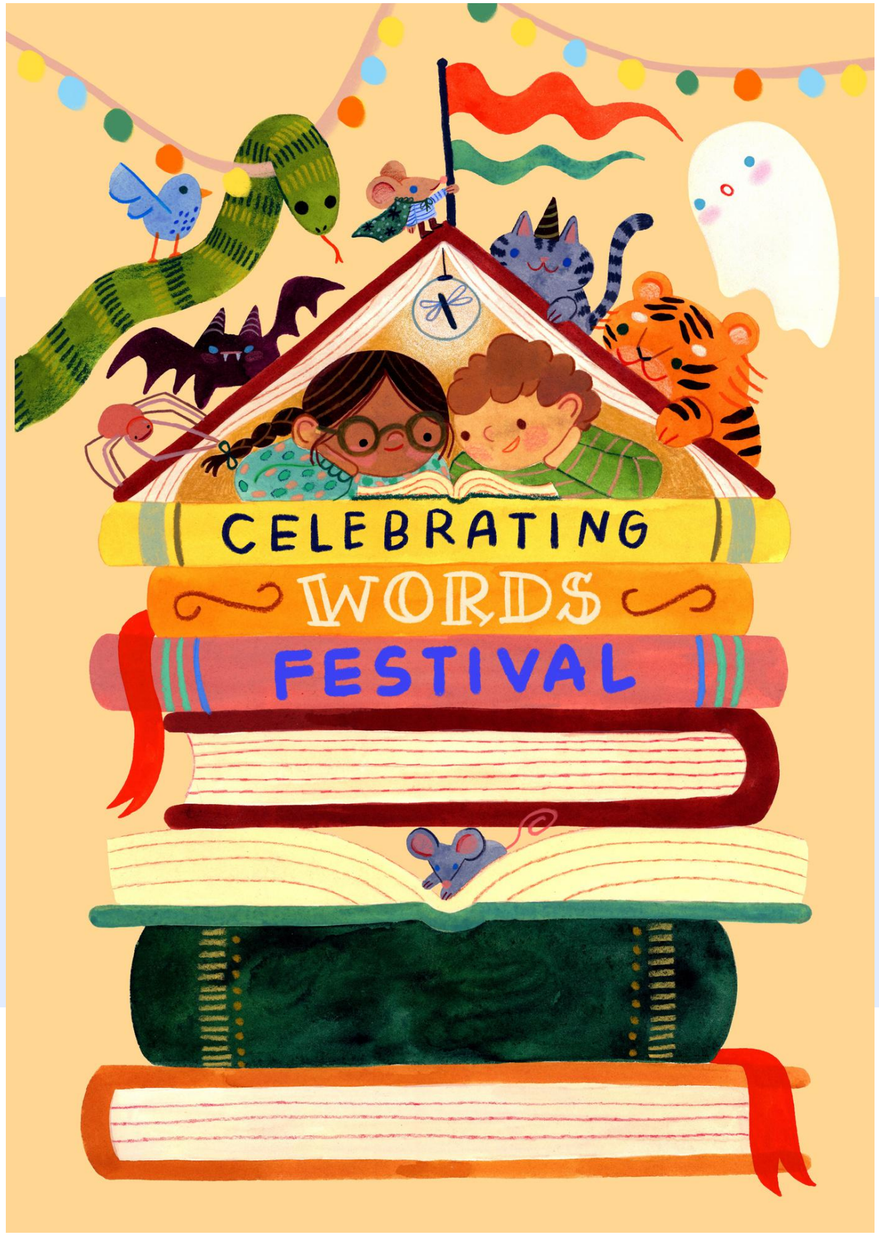
She loves books that convey a sense of joy, and would especially love to work on projects that have speculative or fantastical elements.

Representation: Erica Bauman
ebauman@aevitascreative.com

HEIDI MORENO

Heidi Moreno is a Mexican American author, illustrator, designer, and community cat advocate living in Los Angeles, California. Her work has been featured in galleries across the United States, and she frequently participates in group shows at Gallery Nucleus in Portland, Oregon. She has collaborated with Facebook, Papyrus, the OC Fair, and several cat rescues such as Kitten Rescue LA.

Heidi is constantly chasing the feeling that Halloween brought her as a child, when she ran through streets with only the warm, dim streetlamps guiding her way to the next orange-lit home with a jack-o-lantern calling. Her textures and use of watercolors, gouache, and colored pencils are inspired by her favorite childhood tools. She loves to create eccentric characters, and to imagine what their quirks and days might be like. Her debut illustrated book, *Working from Home with a Cat*, started out as a zine she printed at home. *Luna Oscura* is her first bilingual children's book. Heidi forthcoming illustration projects include the picture books *One Hundred Questions* by Belen Medina, and *But I'm A Pumpkin! A Summerween Story* by Kat Choppy, as well select chapters illustrated as graphic novel panels for Pura Belpre Honoree Laekan Zea Kemp's upcoming upper middle grade novel, *The Chismosas Only Book Club*. On most days you can find her hanging out with her husband Danny and their neighborhood's community cats.


CELEBRATING
WORDS
FESTIVAL

EMPANADAS

MEOW
MEOW
MEOW
SORRY...
CAN YOU REPEAT
THAT?

Think of Heidi for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

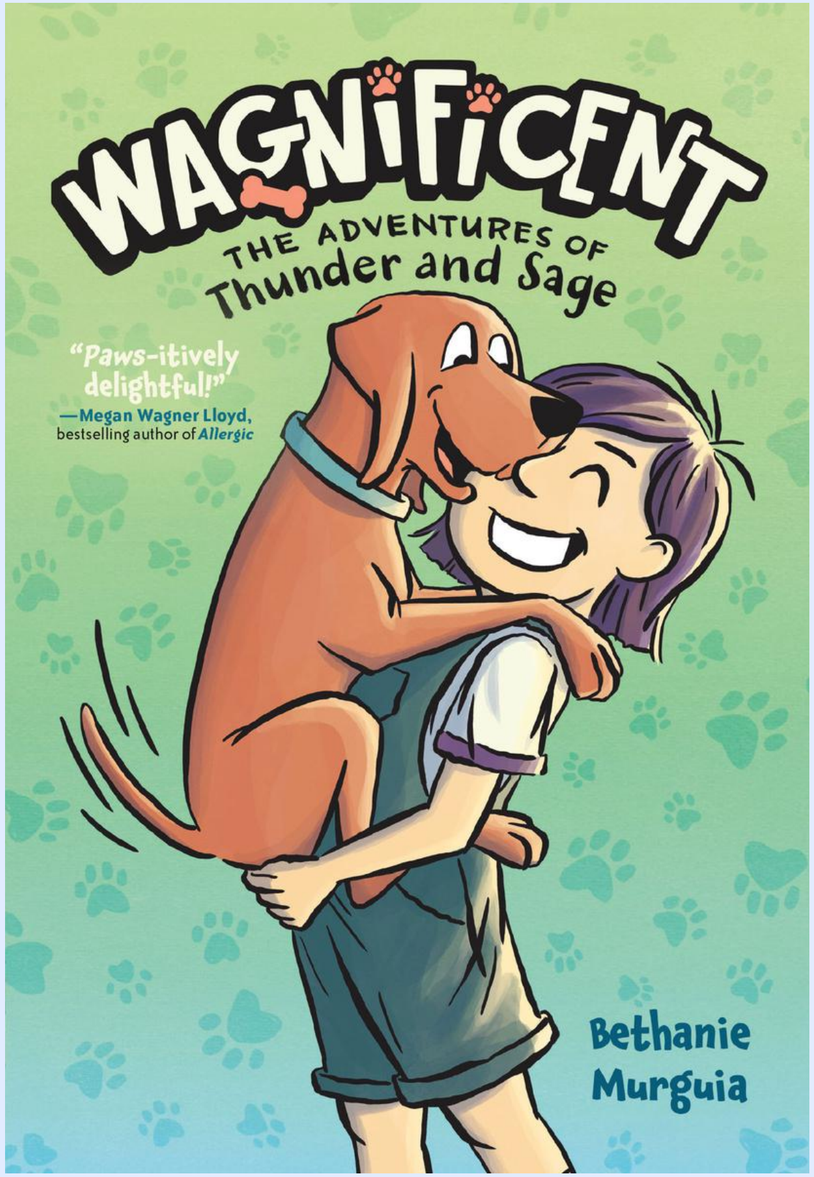
She is especially passionate about stories that feature quirky humor, tender emotions, and Latinx culture.

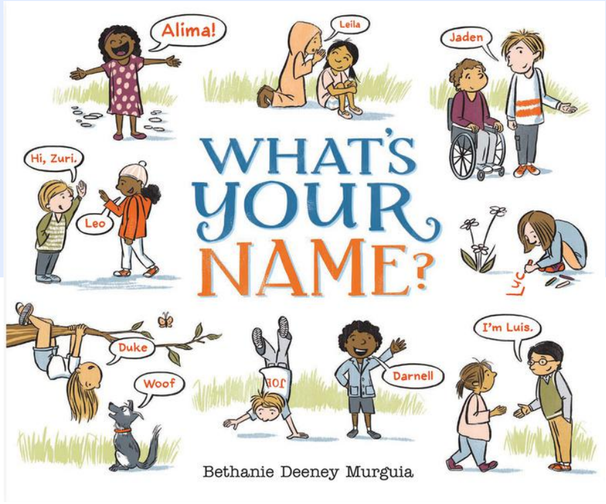
Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

BETHANIE MURGUIA

Bethanie Murguia is an author and illustrator. She has created eighteen picture books, and she is currently working on middle grade graphic novels for Macmillan and Candlewick Press. Her most recent titles include *What's Your Name, When You Take a Step, and We Disagree.* She received her MFA in illustration from the School of Visual Arts in New York and worked as an art director for various publishers, design firms, and marketing agencies before dedicating herself to children's writing and illustration. Her books have received many accolades, including starred reviews from Kirkus and Publisher's Weekly, Junior Library Guild Gold Standard, ALSC Summer Reading List, IndieNext List, Amazon Best Books of the Year, BCCB Best Books of the Year, and Bank Street College Best Books of the Year.

Bethanie lives north of the Golden Gate Bridge with her family and two forty-pound lap dogs. When she's not creating stories, she's most likely hiking, biking, or snuggling up with her dogs and a book.




Alima!
Leila
Jaden
Hi, Zuri.
Leo
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
Duke
Woof
Joe
Darnell
I'm Luis.
Bethanie Deeney Murguia

WE DISAGREE
Bethanie Deeney Murguia

Think of Bethanie for...

picture books, middle grade, and graphic novels.

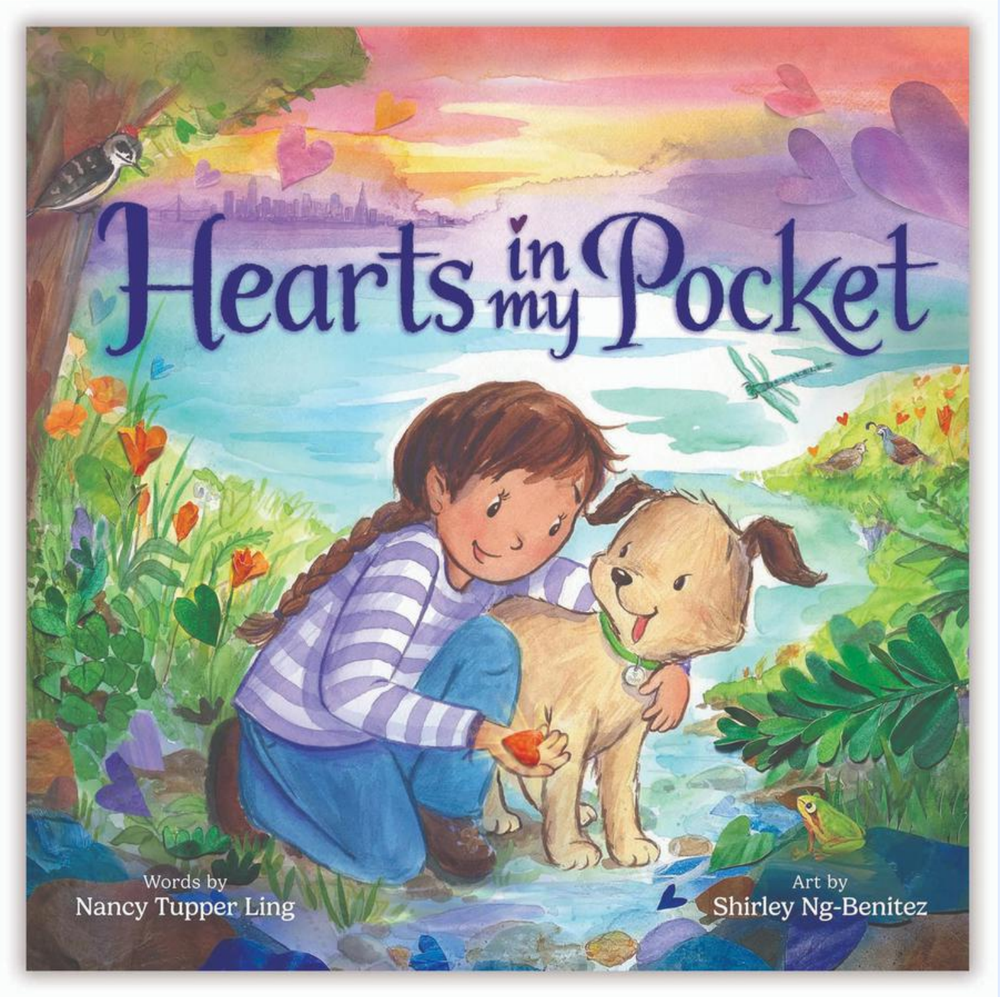
Bethanie is excited to continue working on graphic novels, especially those that feature unusual character viewpoints. She loves to illustrate animals, nature, atmospheric settings, and big emotions. She’s also drawn to slice of life stories about transitions and adaptation.

Representation: Rubin Pfeffer, Amy Thrall Flynn
rpfeffer@aevitascreative.com, aflynn@aevitascreative.com

SHIRLEY NG-BENITEZ

Shirley Ng-Benitez is a Bay Area author and illustrator who loves art, storytelling, and all things handmade. She's had the honor of illustrating numerous board books, picture books, and an award-winning early reader chapter book series; and is currently working on her debut picture book, *Down, Through, Up* from Quill Tree Books. She has a background in hand lettering (Professional Lettering Artist at American Greetings), and graphic design (owner of GabbyandCo.com) and continually experiments with traditional media including watercolor, gouache, painted & cut paper, and more recently small ceramic figurines.

Shirley believes that "Everyone's a story." and she has a deep wish to build more connection and compassion in the world through her work. In '20 she founded @AWEtober (on Instagram), an art auction fundraiser supporting victims of the California wildfires, and coral restoration efforts around the globe. When not at her desk, you can find her enjoying time with her family and their two black cats, Miso & Luna; or on long walks capturing story ideas from the sights and sounds of the neighborhood geese, duck, sheep, and a little pygmy goat named Bolt. For more, please visit shirleyngbenitez.com.



©Shirley Ng-Benitez

©Shirley Ng-Benitez

Think of Shirley for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, and graphic novels.

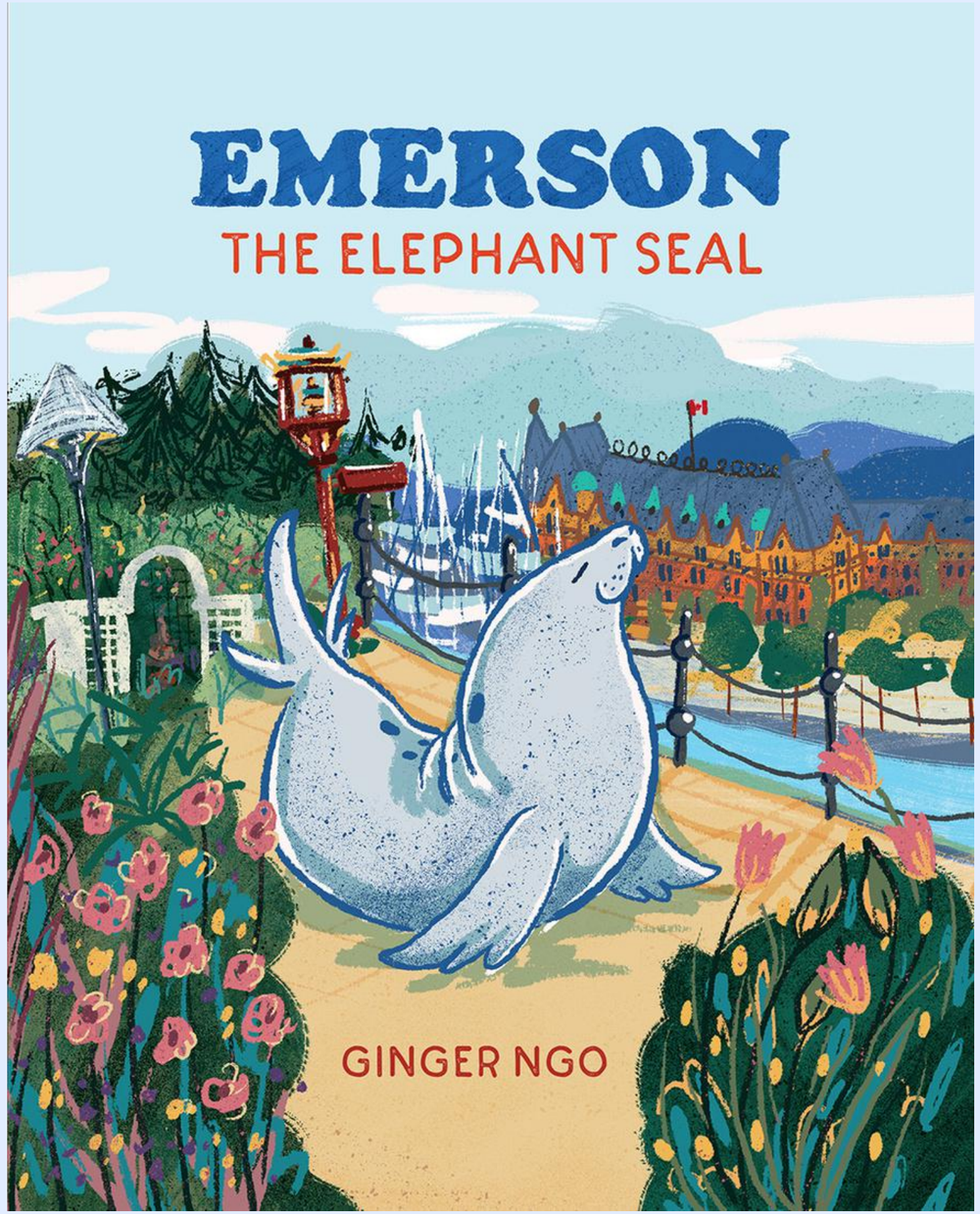
Shirley enjoys creating heartfelt and hopeful stories that foster care for nature, animals, and our planet; and building connection and compassion to and for all. As a Chinese American, she also enjoys writing stories championing authentic representation and SEL themes.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

GINGER NGO

Ginger Ngo is a Canadian illustrator and graphic designer who loves working with thoughtful people and creative minds. She is a proud immigrant from the Pearl of the Orient Seas with lots of stories to tell. Born and raised in the Philippines with Chinese roots and a third-culture childhood, Ginger grew up with Filipino music, English books, Mexican telenovelas, Japanese cartoons, and Chinese banquets. In Canada she learned about winters, camping, public libraries, David Suzuki, and Gore-Tex.

Ginger's mixed influences have shaped how she sees the world. Often, words aren't enough to describe this, and she turns to illustration as a preferred form of communication. Ginger finds humor in everything because laughter is a universal language. She loves illustrating beautiful landscapes, fabulous characters being themselves, and naughty kids doing funny things. Her latest picture book, which she wrote and illustrated, is *Emerson: The Elephant Seal* (Harbour Publishing). Forthcoming books include: *The King's Court*, written by Beth Elliott (Groundwood Books). She is currently based in Vancouver, BC.

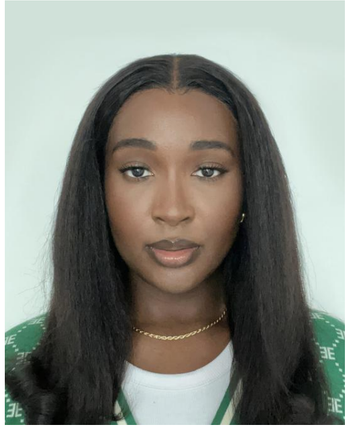


GINGER NGO

Think of Ginger for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, and book covers.

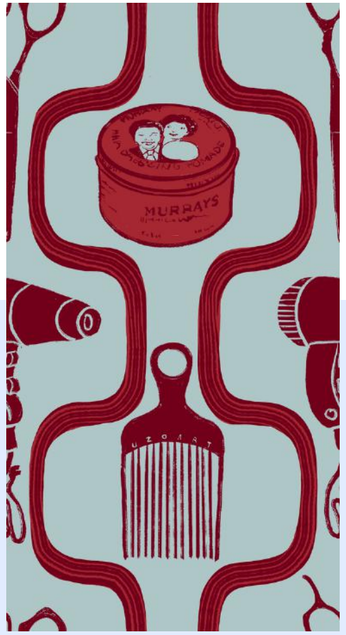
Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

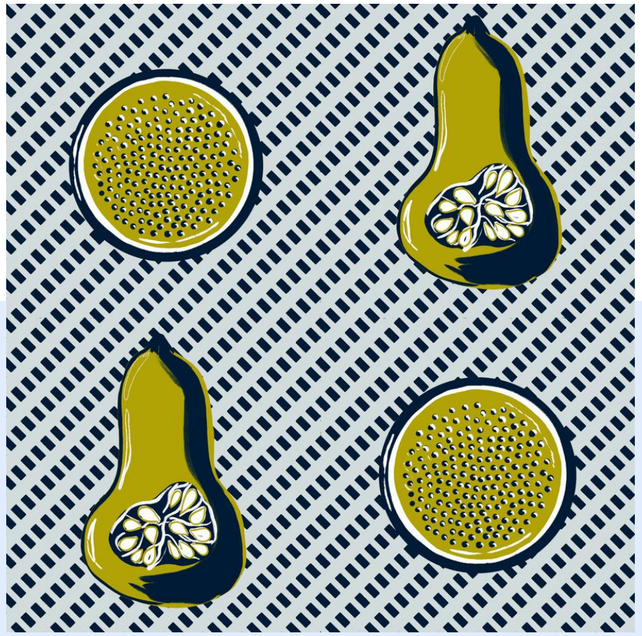


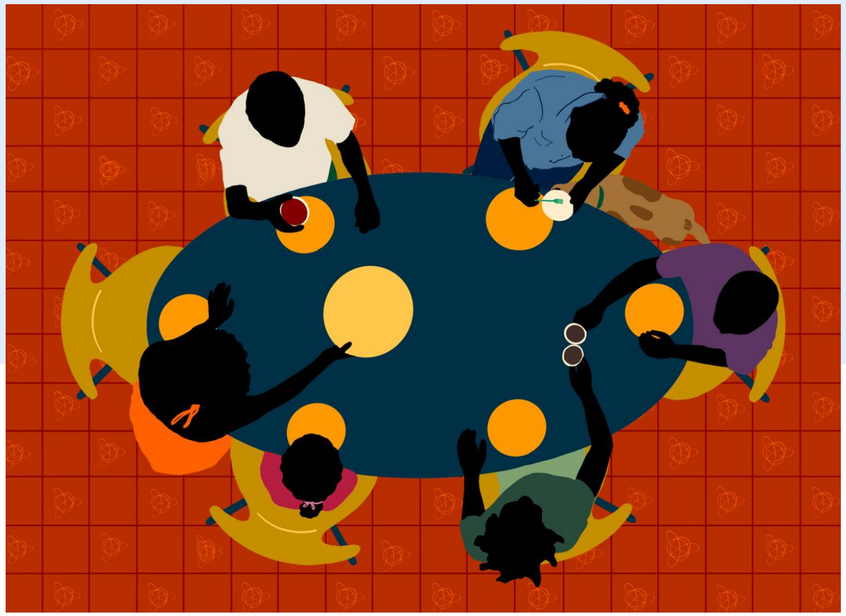
UZO NJOKU

Uzo Njoku is a versatile visual artist well known for her mesmerizing motifs used in her pattern making. Her colorful paintings which majorly depict melanin figures in different forms and portray them in various contexts of beauty all while incorporating her beautiful patterns in the paintings to create contrast and depth.

UZO NJOKU







Think of Uzo for...

picture books, chapter books, adult editorial illustration, book covers, and middle grade.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

JEN DE OLIVEIRA

Jen de Oliveira is a writer and cartoonist. Her debut graphic novel, *Reggie: Kid Penguin*, is a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Book, and was selected for reading lists including the American Library Association's 2023 Best Graphic Novels for Children and the Children's Book Council's 2024 Children's Favorites.

A former elementary school teacher, Jen currently teaches cartooning workshops for kids. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and their two spoiled cats.

JEN DE OLIVEIRA

Think of Jen for...

animation, graphic novels, middle grade, picture books, and chapter books.

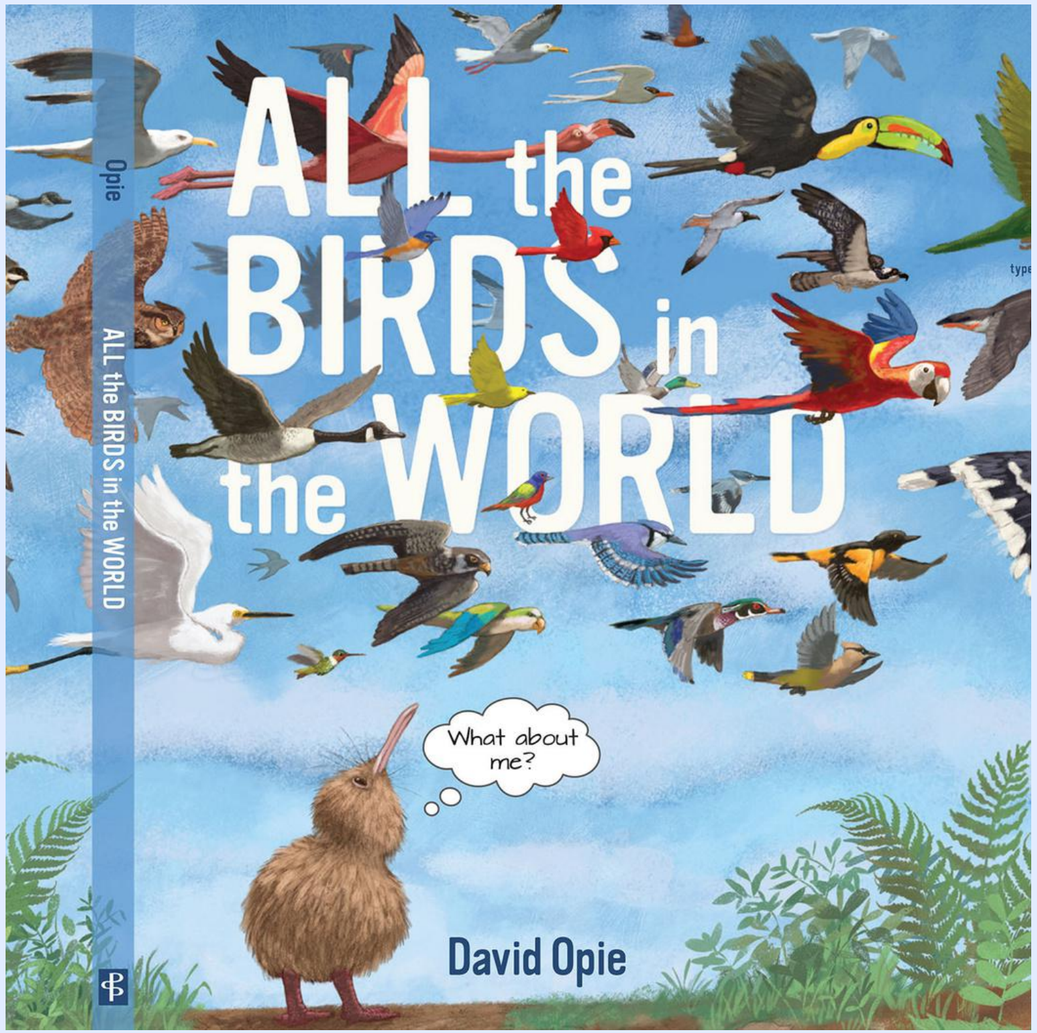
Jen loves creating fun, expressive characters that kids can relate to. Her stories are humorous with heart and illustrated in a cartoony style.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

DAVID OPIE

David Opie grew up in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, where he spent a lot of time roaming around the woods. He went on to earn his BFA in illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design and his MFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York City. His illustrations have appeared in many magazines and newspapers, and he has worked for educational publishers including Heinemann/Houghton Mifflin, Macmillan, Learning A-Z, McGraw-Hill, National Geographic School Publishing, Scholastic, and Soundprints/Smithsonian.

David has taught at the Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago and the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, and was a full-time instructor in the illustration department of the American Academy of Art in downtown Chicago. He currently teaches at the University of New Haven and Eastern Connecticut State University. David and his wife live with their dog in Connecticut.



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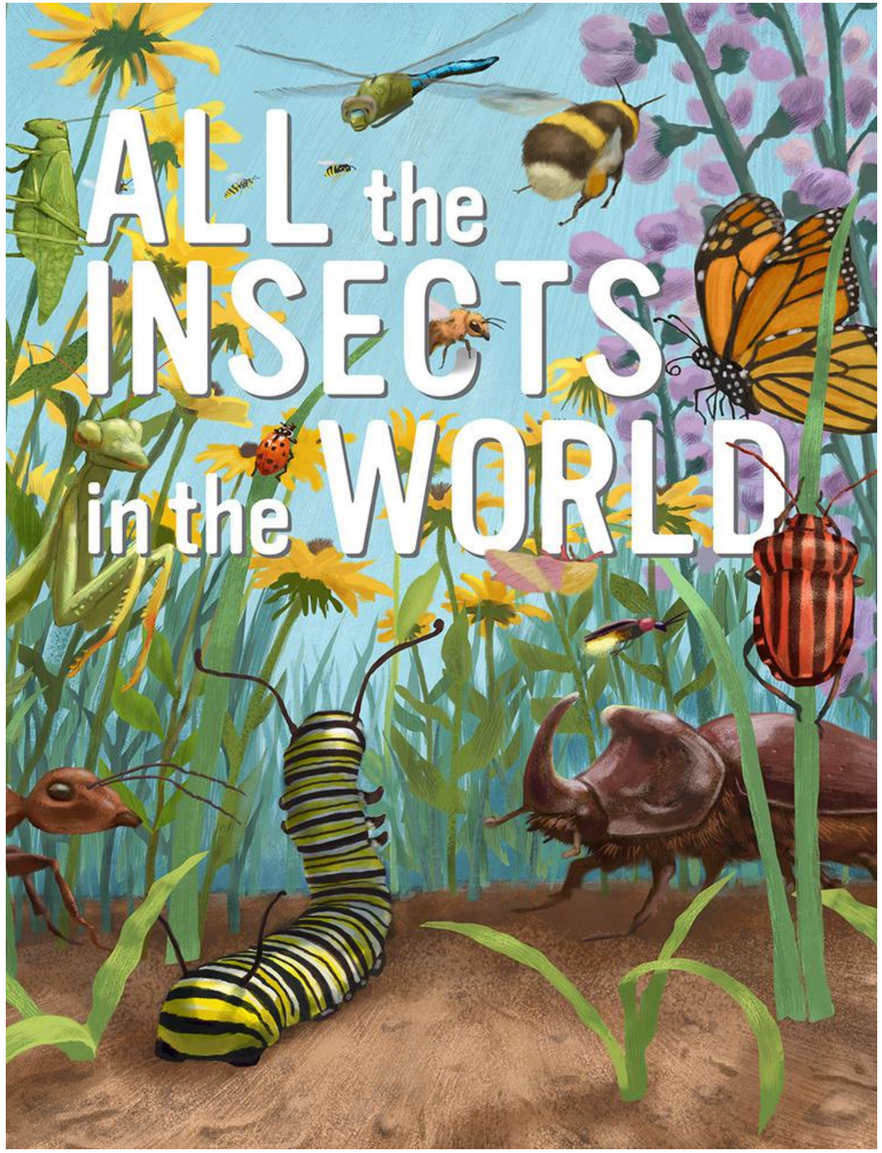
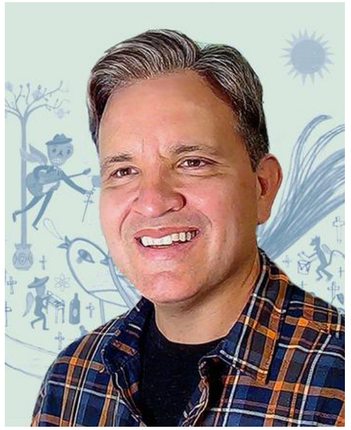


Think of David for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

David enjoys working on animal and nature stories, particularly those including owls (or raptors in general), dinosaurs, and underwater scenes. In addition to the topics represented in his current portfolio, he would love to illustrate more humorous titles, stories about outer space, and "twisted" takes on classic fairytales.

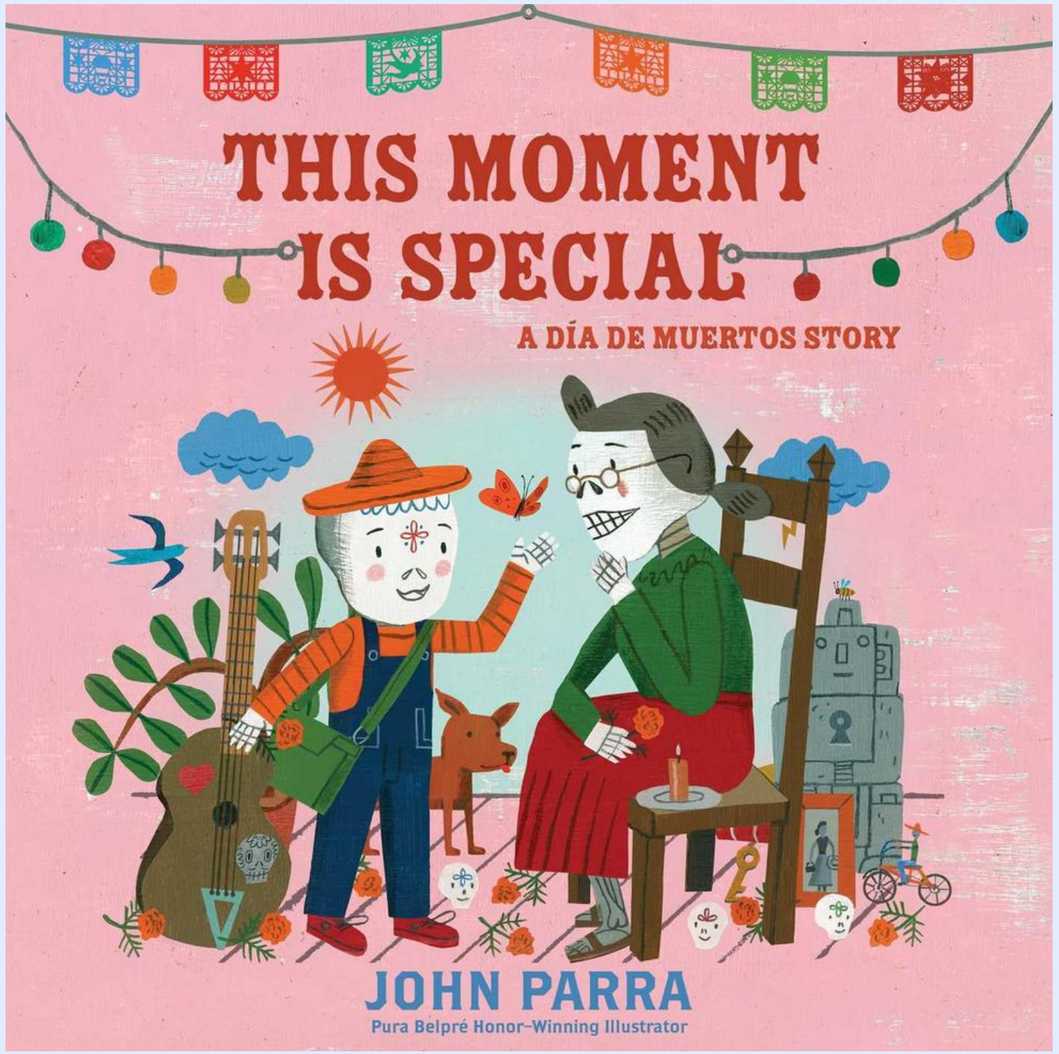
Representation: Rubin Pfeffer
rpfeffer@aevitascreative.com



JOHN PARRA

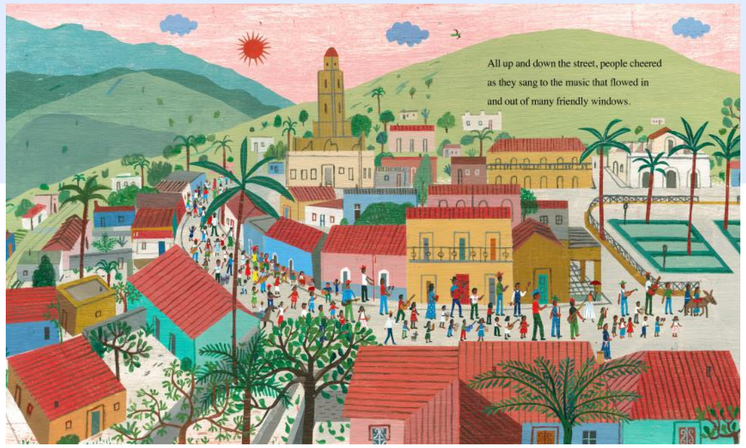
John Parra is an award-winning illustrator, designer, author, and educator. For his children's illustration work he has received three American Library Association's Pura Belpré Honors, two Golden Kite Awards from The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, and two Christopher Award. John's illustrated book, *Frida Kahlo and Her Animalitos*, written by Monica Brown, was named a New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year. Recent titles include *The Power of Her Pen: The Story of Groundbreaking Journalist Ethel L. Payne*, written by Lesa Cline-Ransome, and *Little Libraries, Big Heroes,* written by Miranda Paul. John's debut as both author and illustrator, *Growing an Artist: The Story of a Landscaper and His Son*, received four starred reviews, was an Indie Next Pick, and the recipient of the Christopher Award and the Americas Award. Most recently he illustrated *Spanish Is the Language of My Family* by Michael Genhart, which received seven starred reviews and the Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award, *Eloísa's Musical Window,* written by Newbery Honoree Margarita Engle, and *This Moment is Special,* John's second book as author illustrator. John's forthcoming books include *¡Viva Valenzuela! Fernandomania Erupts in Los Angeles,* by Nathalie Alonso.

John's commercial clients include; Target, United Airlines, Hitachi, PBS, National Geographic, and many others. His designs can be seen on six U.S.Forever Postage Stamps titled Delicioso, and his MTA art card poster, Birdhouse Subways, was displayed throughout NYC subways. John was invited by the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NY to present a special event about his career and illustrations. He has taught art at the Carnegie Art Museum in Oxnard, CA and regularly speaks as a visiting artist at schools and literary conferences across the country, advocating for art and reading education. John is a graduate of Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California. He lives with his wife Maria in Queens, New York.

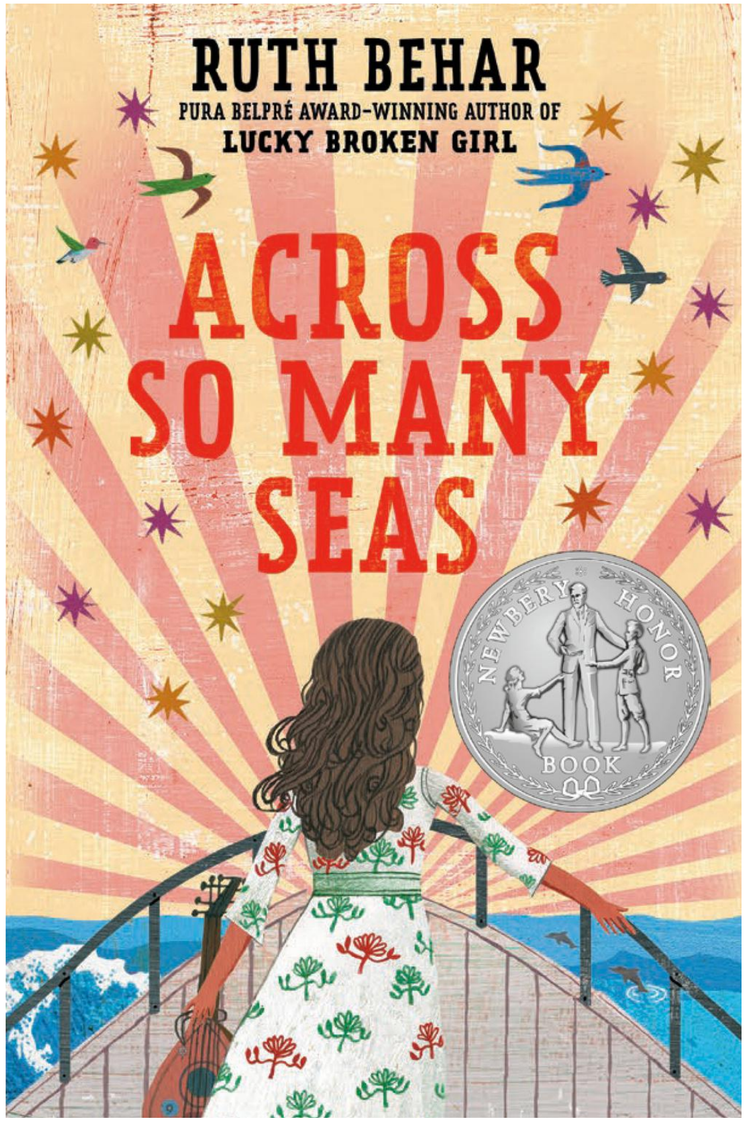


Cats prowled proudly, chanting miau, miau
while dogs leaped and barked guau, guau.
El lechero brought his cow clip clopping
and mu-muing, as they delivered fresh milk
into pitchers held by smiling women.
A boy rode by on a horse whose hoofs
tapped out a rhythm so lively that el caballo
seemed to dance un baile.

The weather turns.
A great storm appears!
I appreciate nature's wildness.
¡Aprecio la naturaleza salvaje!


All up and down the street, people cheered
as they sang to the music that flowed in
and out of many friendly windows.

When all the neighborhood children
joined together to practice their música,
the street looked like a concert hall,
and the window was the best seat
in the house!



Think of John for...

picture books, board books, and book covers.

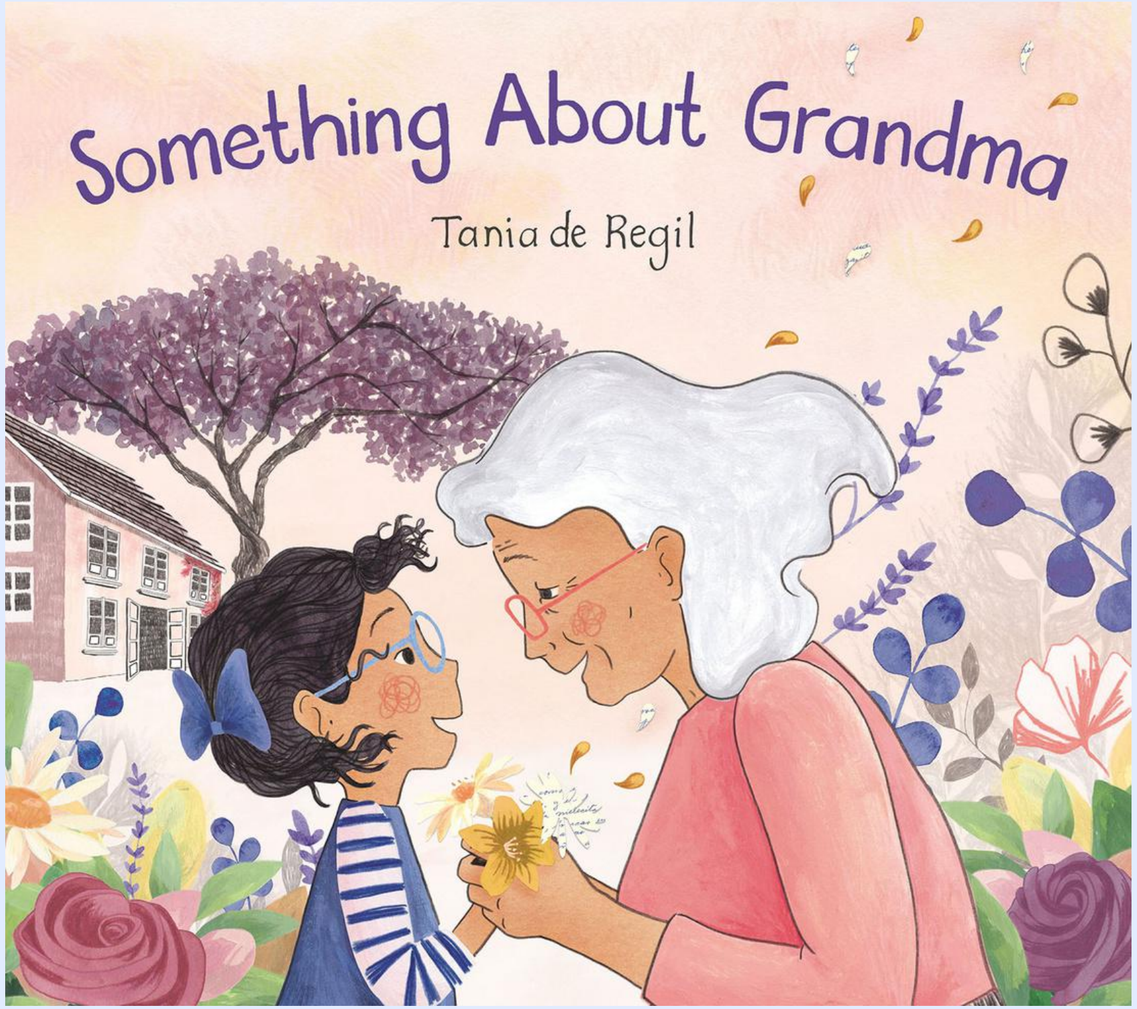
John is especially drawn to stories about Hispanic culture, diversity and ordinary heroes, and to works that celebrate positivity, childhood fun and curiosity, and incorporate a sense of wonder.

Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

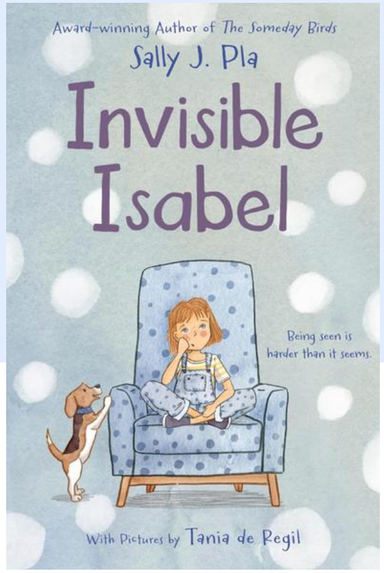
TANIA DE REGIL

Tania de Regil is the creator of the picture book A New Home, which was named an ALA Notable Children's Book and a Best Book of the Year by the New York Public Library and the Chicago Public Library. The Spanish edition, Un Nuevo Hogar was a Bank Street Best Spanish Language Picture Book of the Year and included in the prestigious 2020-2021 Tejas Star Reading List. Tania's second book as author and illustrator is *Something About Grandma*, which was released simultaneously in Spanish as *Un verano especial con la abuela* and named a Best Book of the year by the Chicago Public Library. Tania illustrated the picture books *We Really Do Care,* written by Tami Lewis Brown and Welcome to the Big Kids Club, written by Chelsea Clinton, as well as Sally J. Pla's award-winning middle grade novel, Invisible Isabel.

When Tania was five, she moved to Stockholm, Sweden with her family, where she discovered her love of reading and decided that she wanted to be a professional writer someday. Tania studied fashion design at Parsons School of Design in New York City and finished her studies in her home country of Mexico. Her work as a costume designer in film and television has helped her to better grasp the art of storytelling through images. Tania's illustration work is always filled with interesting details for children to discover. She uses a variety of media in her work, such as watercolor, gouache, color pencils, wax pastels and ink to create richly textured, engaging images. She lives in Mexico City with her family.



TANIA DE REGIL



Think of Tania for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, and book covers.

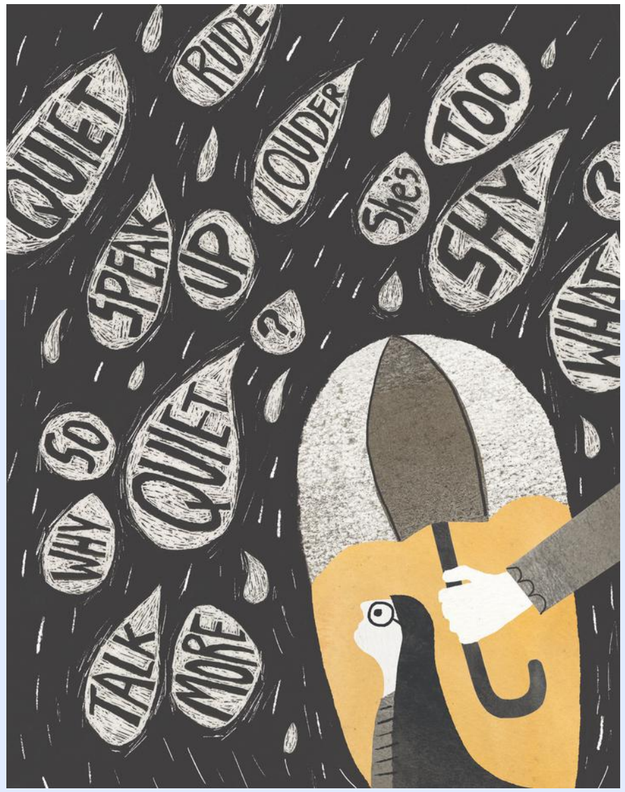
Tania enjoys working on character-driven stories. In addition to the topics represented in her current portfolio, she would love to illustrate stories with quirky humor, imaginative slice-of-life moments, and animals featuring human-like characteristics.

Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

DANIELLE RIDOLFI

Danielle Ridolfi is a picturebook author-illustrator with an MFA in Illustration and Visual Culture from the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts. Her debut picture book, *When the Dark Clouds Come*, is forthcoming from Quill Tree Books in October 2025. Danielle writes and illustrates picture books for children about the natural world and our equally complex emotional landscape that encourage quiet observation, discovery, and reflection. She uses collage and printmaking in her work and is interested in the ways these methods can connect readers with tangible objects, memories, and places. You can often find pressed plants, photographs, and bits of ephemera in her work, and all of them have a story.

Danielle is also an instructor at Washington University in St. Louis where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses about picture book illustration and children's publishing and often writes about children's illustration and visual culture. She was the 2024 recipient of the Ezra Jack Keats & Kerlan Memorial Fellowship from the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation. When she is not in the classroom or the studio, you can find Danielle browsing antique stores, rehabbing her 1902 Victorian home, quilting, or camping in the Missouri Ozarks. Danielle lives in Belleville, Illinois with her partner Eugene.



DANIELLE RIDOLFI

Think of Danielle for...

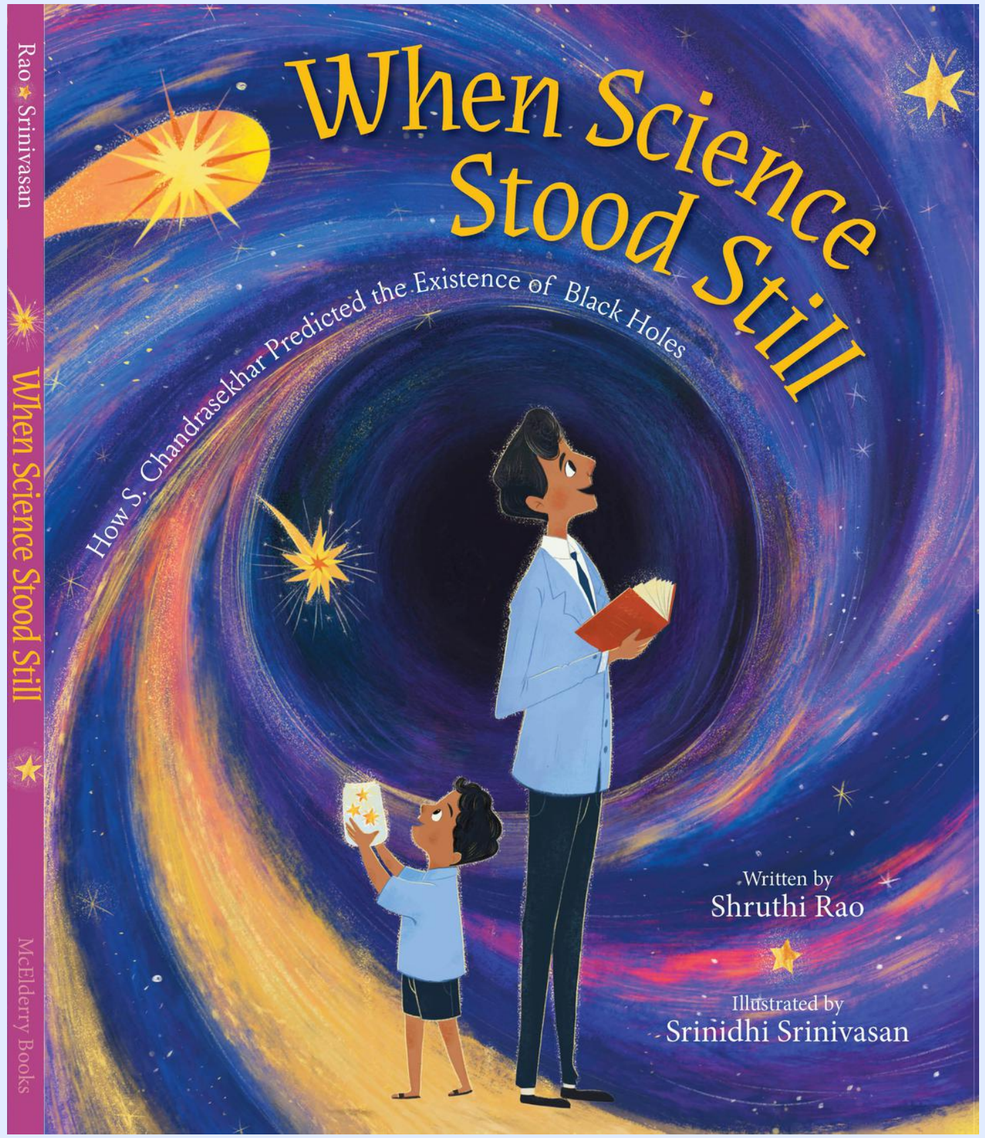
picture books and board books.

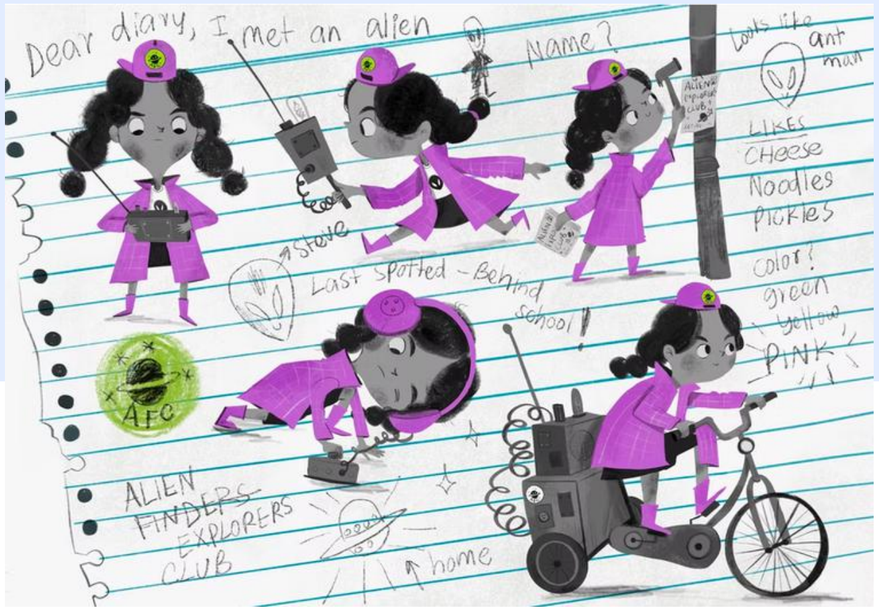
Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

SRINIDHI SRINIVASAN

Srinidhi Srinivasan is an Indian children’s book illustrator and a storyteller. She graduated with a bachelor's in computer science engineering but realised that drawing and bringing to life magical stories were what tickled her heart.She loves to combine humour and emotions in her illustrations.

Srinidhi’s aims to tell diverse stories of vibrant characters who have their own say in the world and create moments that stay with the readers. When she is not drawing, you can find her lost in a book or scribbling in her sketchbook as her tea gets cold.




Dear diary, I met an alien
Name?
Looks like ant man
LIKES
Cheese
Noodles
Pickles
Steve
Last Spotted - Behind School!
color?
green
yellow
PINK
AFC
ALIEN FINDERS EXPLORERS CLUB
home

Think of Srinidhi for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, and book covers.

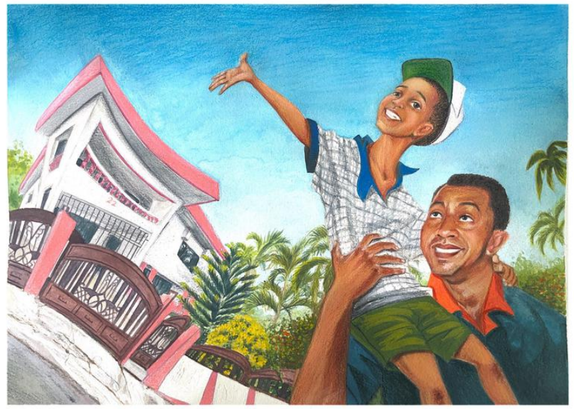
Representation: Miranda Paul
mpaul@aevitascreative.com

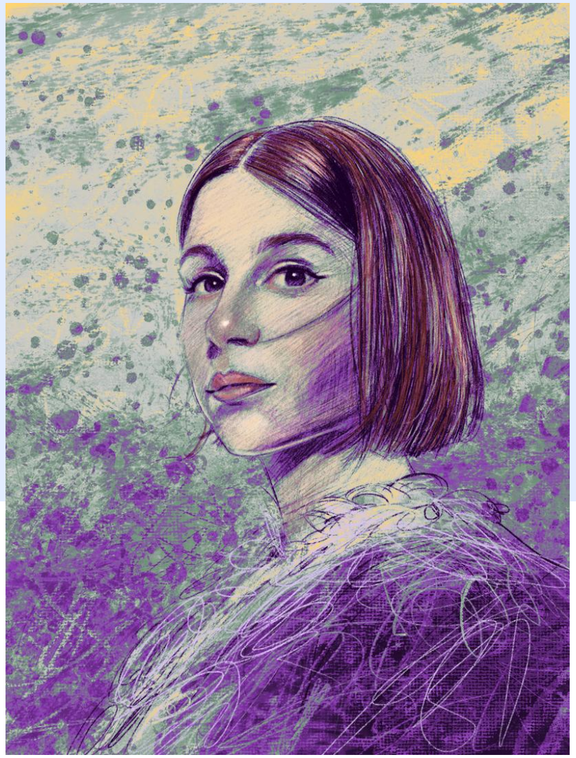
BERNARDO RODRIGUEZ

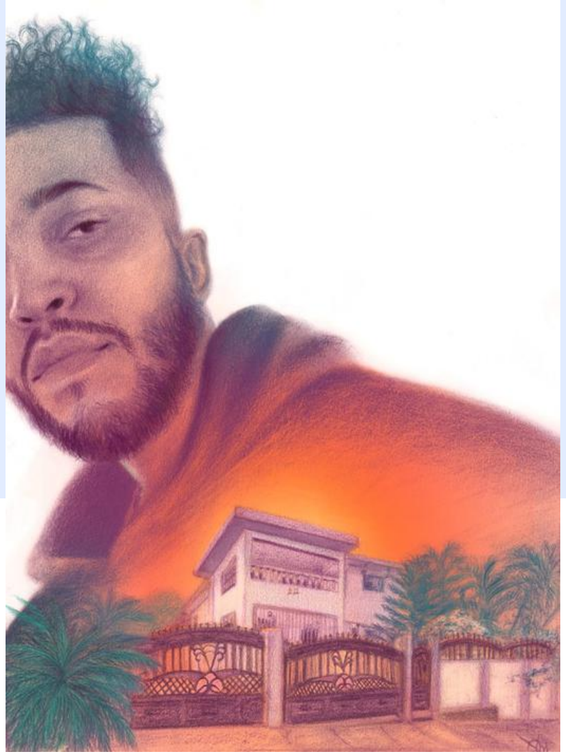
Bernardo Rodriguez is a multifaceted artist whose journey from the Dominican Republic to New York City has profoundly shaped his creative narrative. His intricate illustrations often explore the human experience, drawing inspiration from the vibrant streets of New York and the intimate moments of daily life.

Bernardo's ability to capture the essence of his subjects with precision has earned him international recognition, and his work has appeared in major publications and exhibitions worldwide. He has collaborated with a variety of clients and organizations including Nike, The New Yorker, Isolated Labs, The Marshall Project, RH, The Innocence Project, Wildlife Conservation Society, DemocracyNYC, Domus Magazine, Soho House, and VaynerMedia.

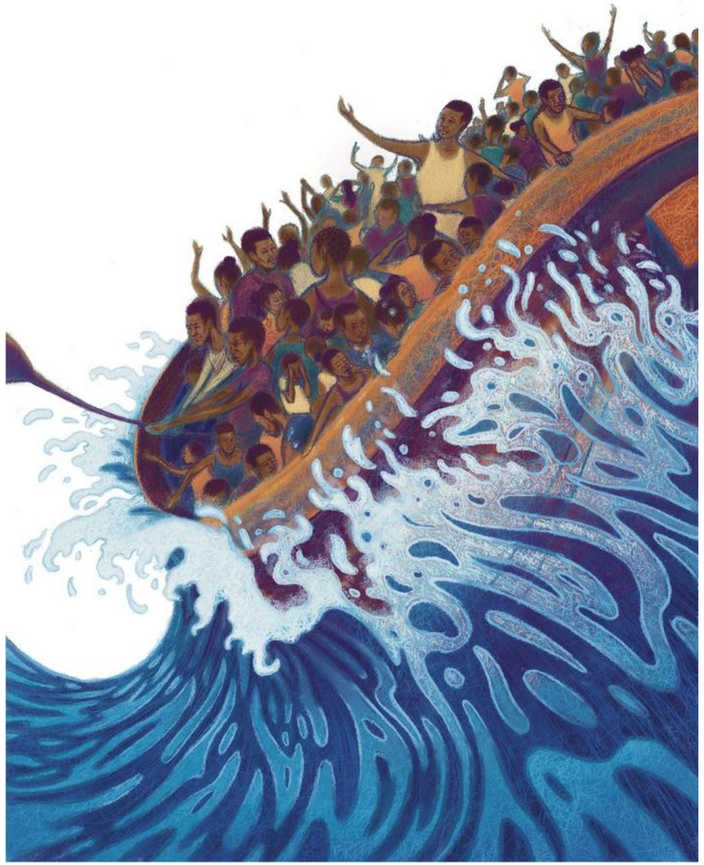
Bernardo earned his MFA from the School of Visual Arts, where he was honored with the Paula Rhodes Memorial Award for Excellence in Illustration, and chosen as the commencement speaker for his graduating class. Bernardo's first picture book illustration project is the forthcoming *Abuelito's Music* written by Alán Pelaez López (Levine Querido).







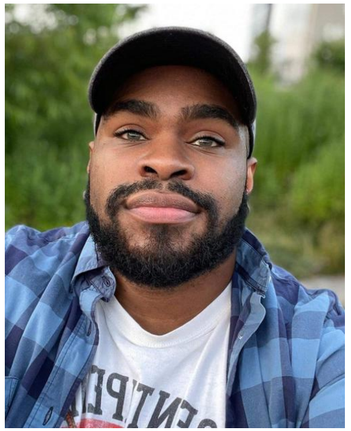
BERNARDO RODRIGUEZ



Think of Bernardo for...

picture books, adult editorial illustration, book covers, graphic novels, chapter books, and middle grade.

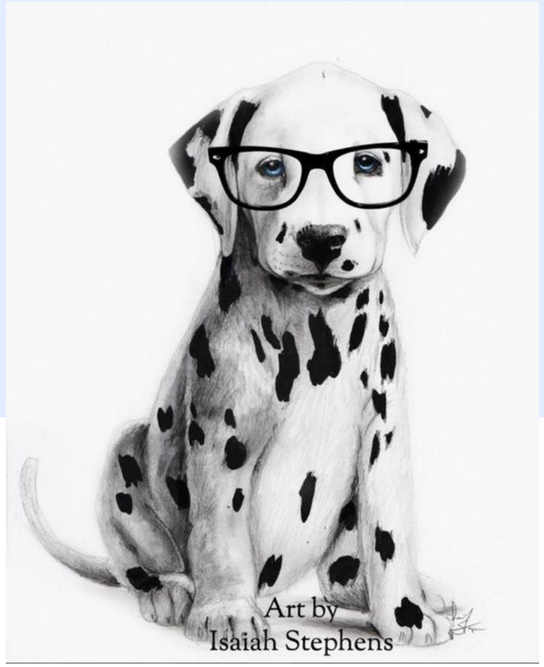
Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adomínguez@aevitascreative.com



ISAIAH KEITH STEPHENS

Isaiah Stephens, a native of Lowell, MA, renders illustrations that bring characters to life and where a world of light-heartedness rules - light-heartedness with deep emotional underpinnings. In 2023 he was awarded the Nonprofit Excellence Award for Young Professionals by the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network for his work with Lowell's homeless population.

ISAIAH KEITH STEPHENS



Think of Isaiah for...

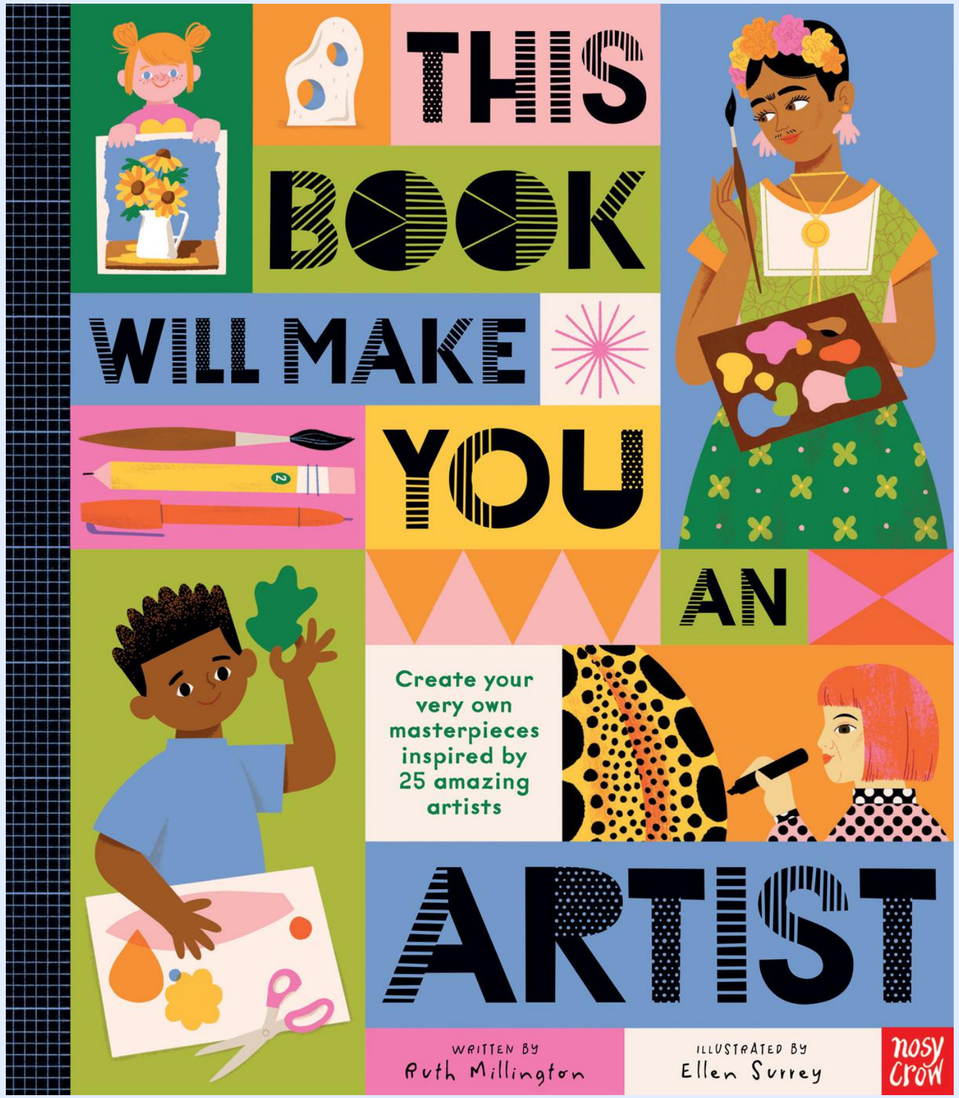
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and animation.

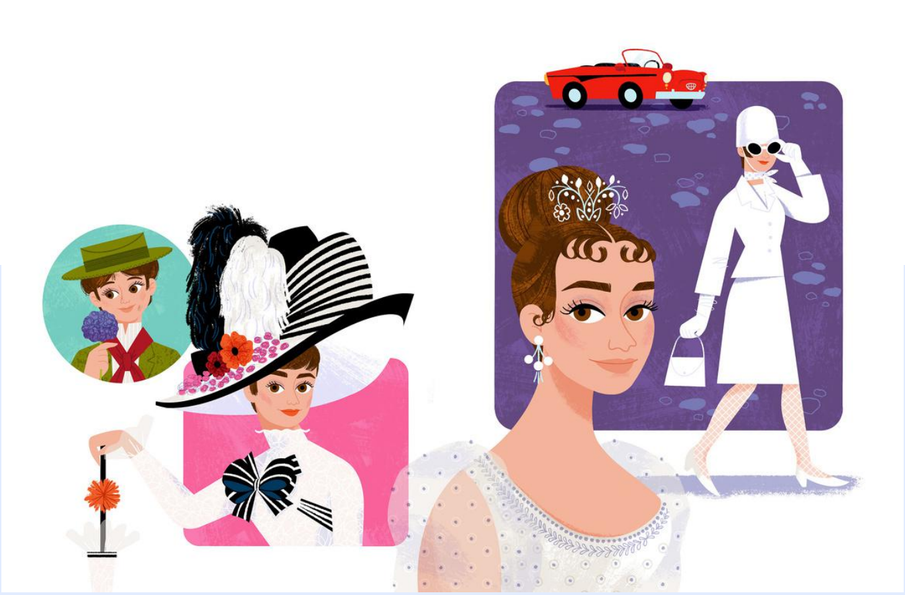
Representation: Rick Richter
rrichter@aevitascreative.com

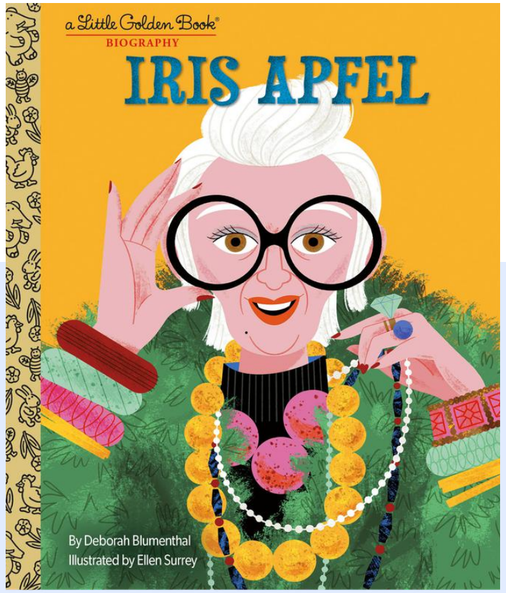
ELLEN SURREY

Ellen Surrey is an illustrator out of sunny Los Angeles, California. Blending her love of mid-century design and vintage children's books, Ellen enjoys finding beauty in the past and colorfully sharing it with a contemporary audience. She's illustrated many children's books about inspiring people, including Dolly Parton! *This Book Will Make You an Artist* just released in 2024, featuring Ellen's splendid illustrations profiling 25 of the world's best-known artists.

Ellen's work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and most recently as USPS postage stamps. When she isn't working, Ellen enjoys watching old movies and visiting her favorite thrift stores. You can view her work at ellensurrey.com or follow her on Instagram/Twitter @yesurrey.







ELLEN SURREY

Think of Ellen for...

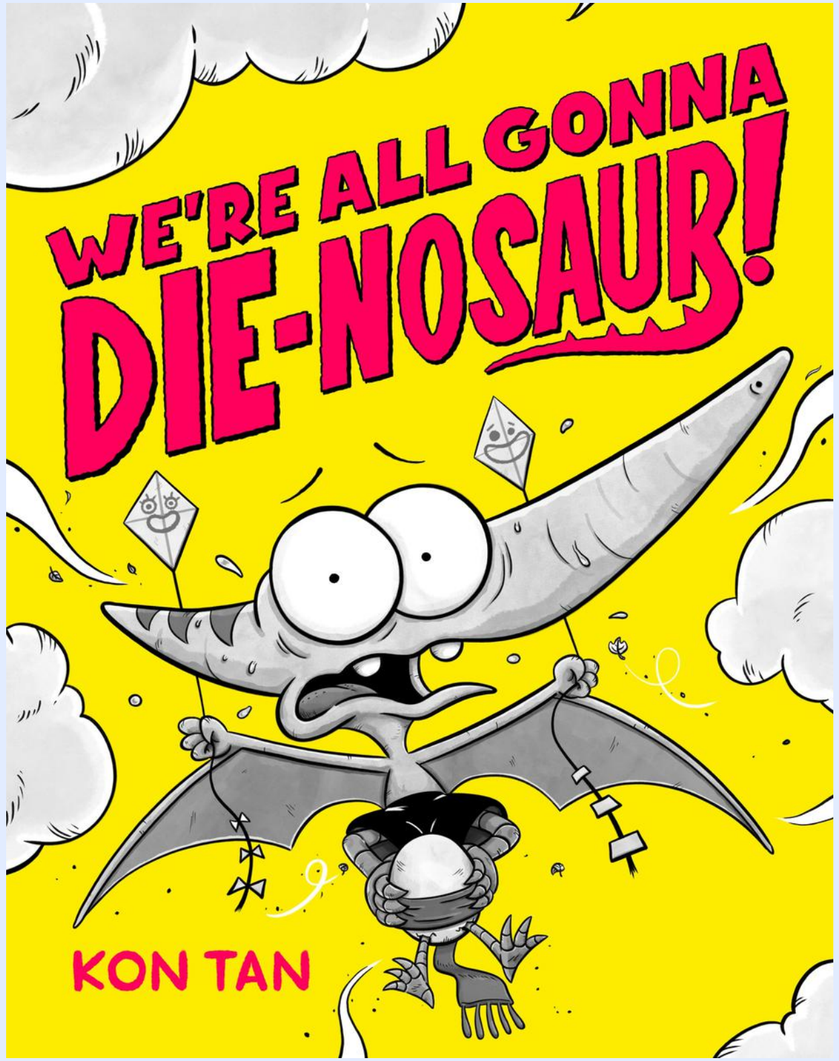
picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, adult illustration, and animation.

Ellen is passionate about humorous and heartfelt stories, education, and history. She is also interested in surface design, product design, and advertising. She has a fondness for film and old Hollywood, something she'd love to incorporate into a book one day.

Representation: Amy Thrall Flynn
aflynn@aevitascreative.com

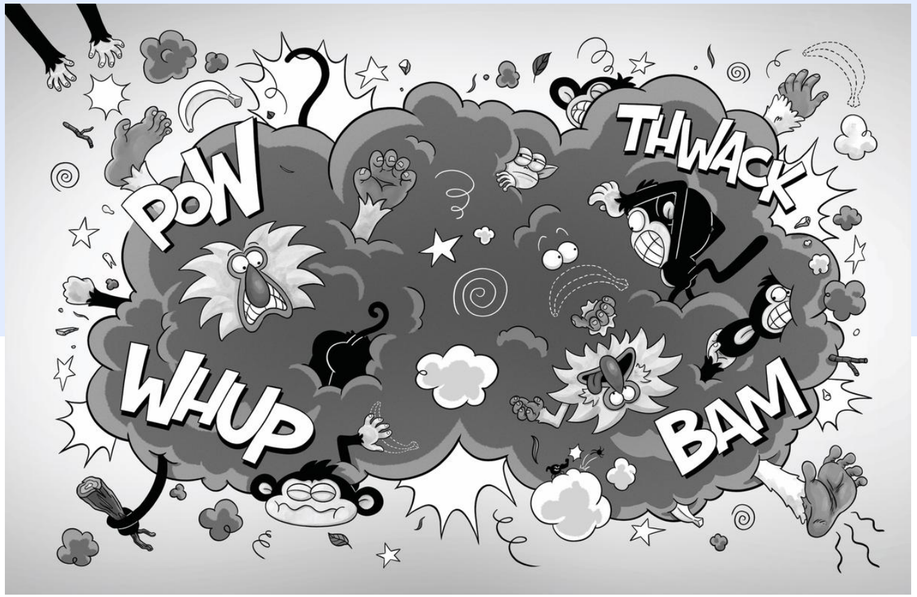
KON TAN

Kon Tan was raised in The Bronx, and from an early age he was obsessed with dinosaurs, monster movies, and superheroes. Unfortunately, one day he grew up, but he was lucky to find work as a teacher, bookseller, and animator. He is afraid of the ocean but proud to have conquered his fear of heights and riding a bike. He promises himself he will eventually learn how to swim. You can see more of his art on his website www.KonsComics.com or follow him on Instagram @KonsComics.



KON TAN

We're all gonna die — nosaur!!!
?


POW
THWACK
WHUP
BAM

AUUGH!
SPLISH
SPLASH

Think of Kon for...

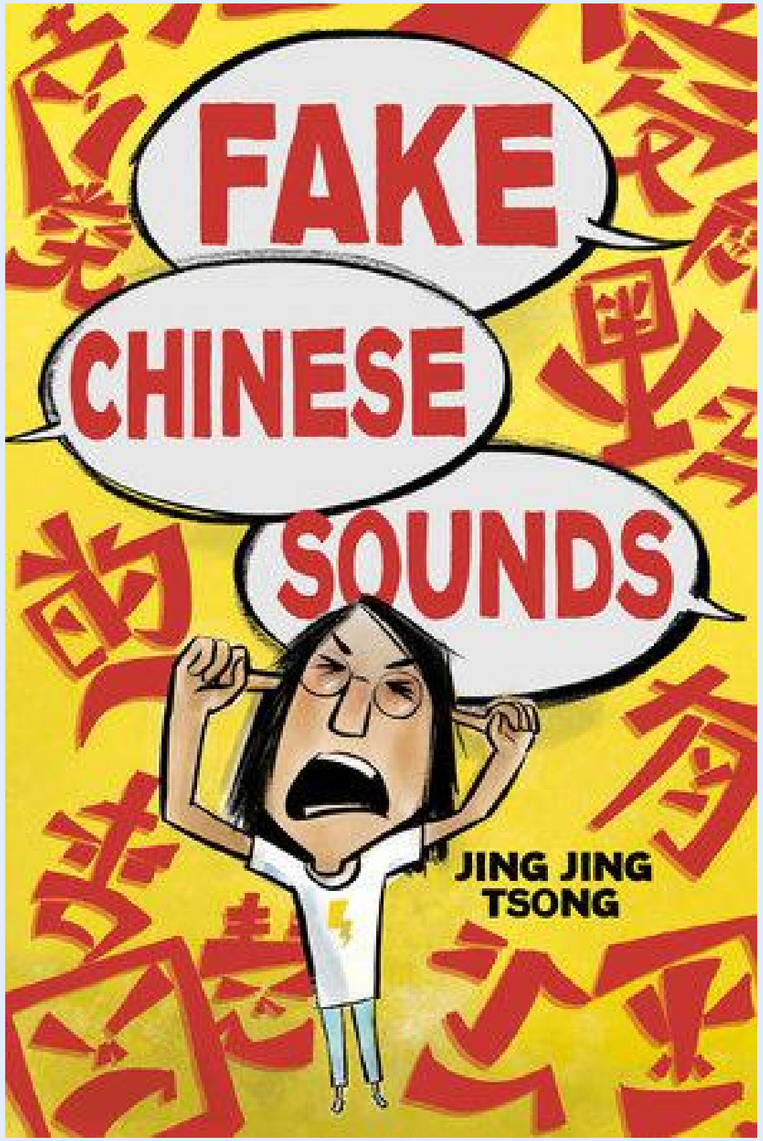
graphic novels, chapter books, animation, and book covers.

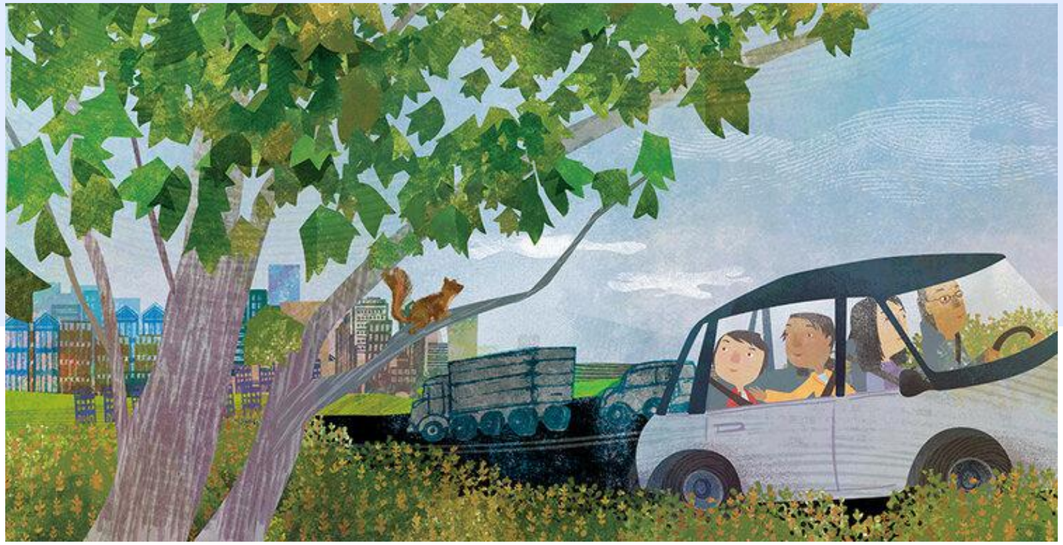
Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette
ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

JING JING TSONG

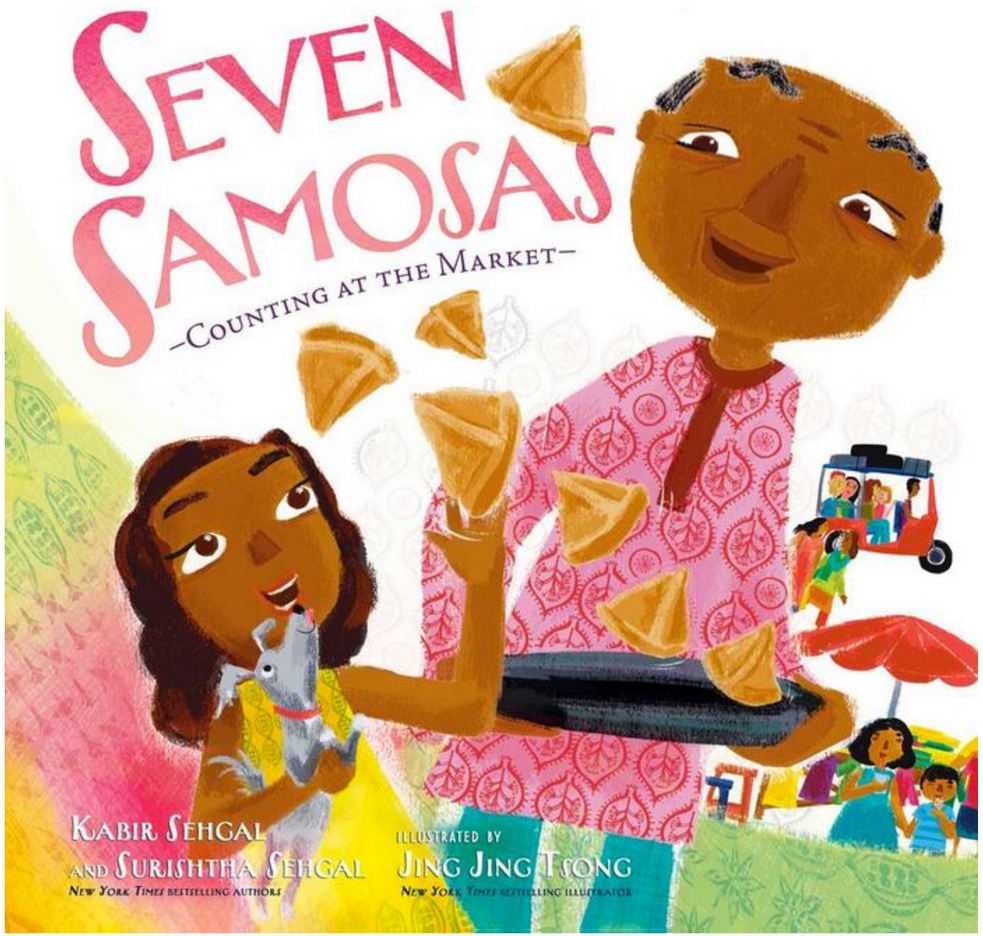
Jing Jing Tsong is a *New York Times* bestselling children's picture book illustrator. Jing Jing's images are a digital collage of color, traditional printmaking techniques and pattern. When not growing kale or surfing, Jing Jing spends her time translating the world through her words and pictures.

She is the author and illustrator of many picture books and a debut graphic novel, *Fake Chinese Sounds*.





JING JING TSONG



Think of Jing Jing for...

picture books and graphic novels.

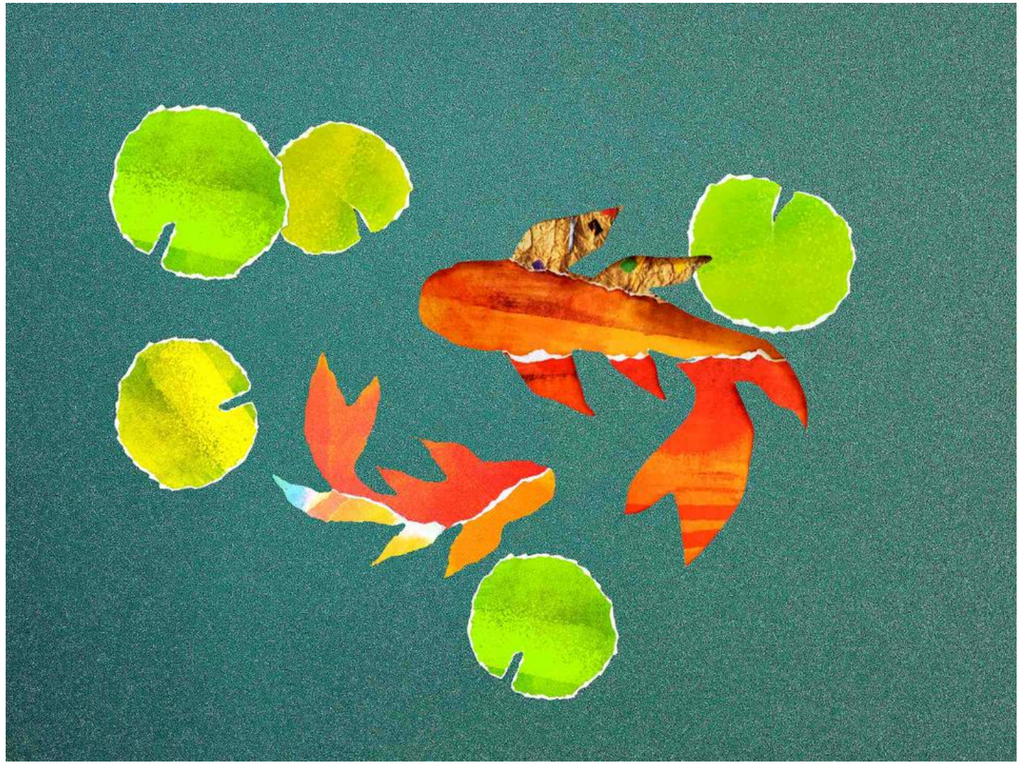
Jing Jing's work explores the interconnectedness of being. She finds inspiration in play, music, drawing, exploring, surfing, sticky rice, and doing things for the love of it.

Representation: Rubin Pfeffer
rpfeffer@aevitascreative.com

TINA AGUILA TUSCHER

Tina Aguila Tuscher is a Filipino American author and illustrator with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from UCLA. Driven by a passion for storytelling and celebrating diversity, she helped develop a Wee Books program at The Early Learning Institute for children aged 0-5 with special needs, fostering inclusive early childhood literacy. Currently, Tina writes and illustrates picture books that highlight multicultural backgrounds and promotes understanding and acceptance among young readers. When not creating, she enjoys her two grandchildren, her dog Toby and connecting with her community.

TINA AGUILA TUSCHER



Think of Tina for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

Tina is driven by a passion for storytelling and celebrating diversity, her writing/art is motivated by celebrating multicultural backgrounds and the beauty that it brings to the community.

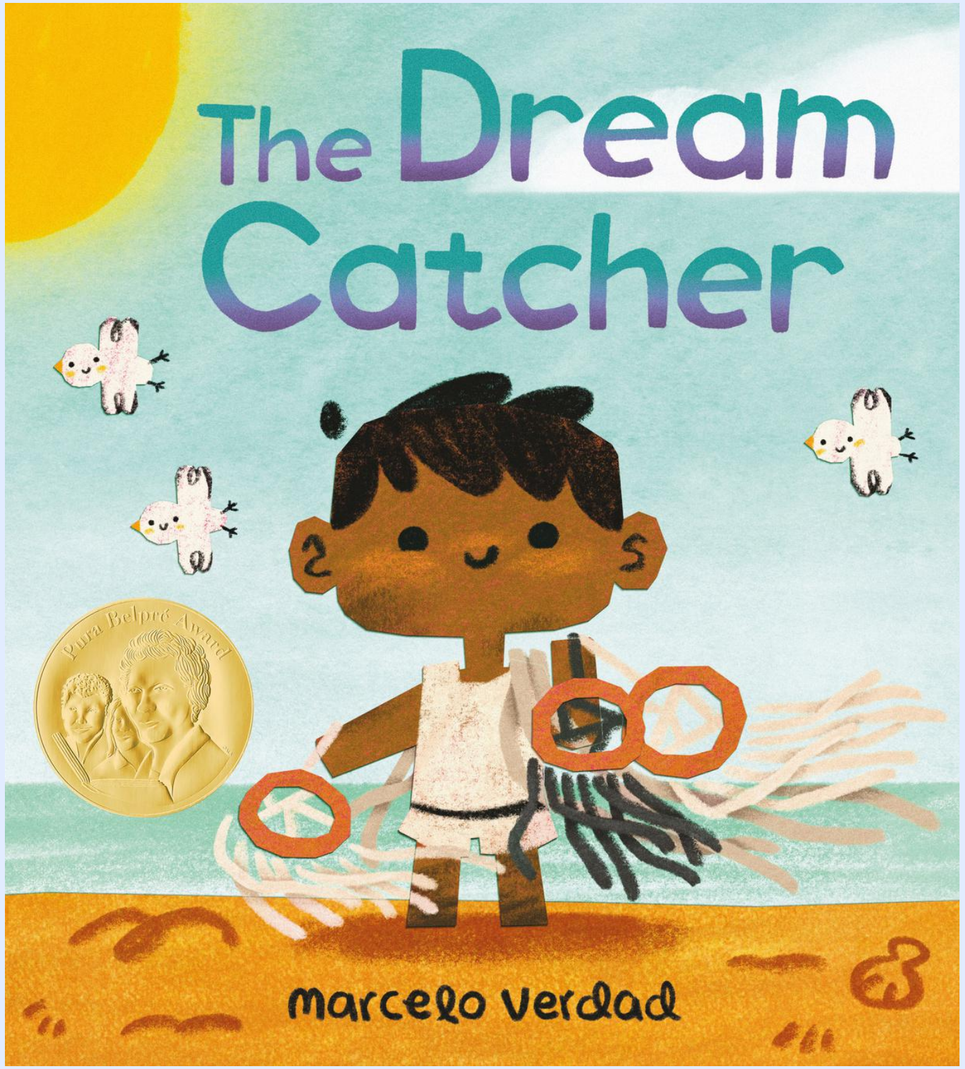
Representation: Mary C. Moore
mmoore@aevitascreative.com

MARCELO VERDAD

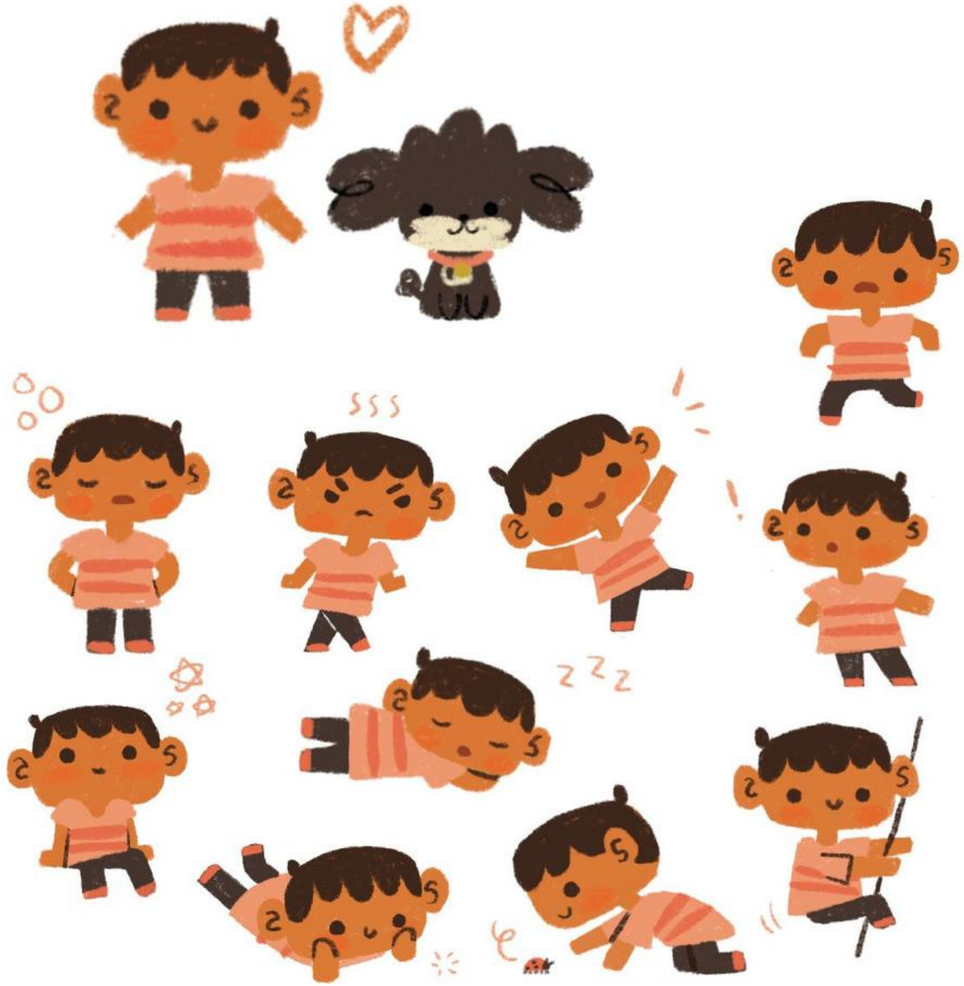
Marcelo Verdad is a queer author and illustrator from México, and the creator of the Pura Belpré Award winning picture book *The Dream Catcher*, published in Spanish as *El atrapasueños* (Little Brown). His previous book, *The Worst Teddy Ever*, published in Spanish as *El peor Teddy del mundo* (Little, Brown), received a Blue Ribbon from The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, and was named a 2022 Indigo Best Book of the Year. He also illustrated the forthcoming *The Dumped Truck*, written by Daniel Bernstrom (HarperCollins).

Marcelo likes to tell layered stories from unconventional perspectives. He describes his work as "consciousness disguised as design." His visual practice involves a lot of play. It starts with multiple recognizable elements for kids—paper textures, cutouts, crayons, bright colors and basic shapes— to create an accessible visual language for them. Then he edits his compositions digitally until he feels a big smile take hold of his face. The smile is a crucial and serious part of the process. Very serious.

Marcelo graduated from ArtCenter College of Design, where he fell in love with kids' books. He sees them as a great opportunity to share valuable tools to help tiny ones build a strong foundation from which to navigate this world with kindness, openness, and compassion. He lives in Los Angeles, California, but you can often find him traveling in his pink spaceship with his tiny furry life companions, Prana and Dharma. They love to drink chocolate milk and nap together.



MARCELO VERDAD



Think of Marcelo for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, book covers, adult editorial illustration, and animation.

Marcelo loves fun stories with heart, soft stories with depth and emotion, and absurd but smart read-alouds that help to connect with tiny ones through laughter. He's also interested in topics related to mindfulness. Marcelo really enjoys collaborating with the creative team on projects.

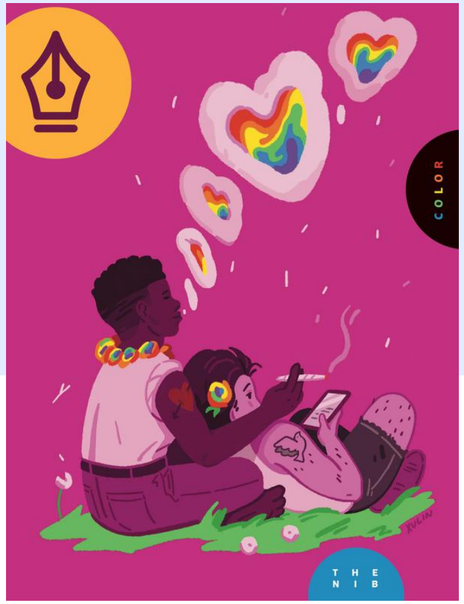
Representation: Adriana Domínguez
adominguez@aevitascreative.com

XULIN WANG

Xulin Wang (they/them) is an award-winning Canadian-Chinese illustrator, author, and comic journalist living in Toronto. As a lifelong learner passionate about causes including science, education, and representation, they've dedicated their career to illustrating complex ideas and diverse, vibrant characters. As a first-generation immigrant, their art is shaped by personal experience—growing up between cultures, exploring the nature of the Rocky Mountains, and a lifelong love of learning. Their approach to art is bold and vibrant, emotional, communicative, and meticulously researched.

Xulin is an emerging voice in comics, authoring and illustrating thought-provoking stories at the intersection of social justice and science. They have published work with the Guardian, Vox, and solo-exhibited at the United Nations Geneva HQ with a comic (*The Silent Pandemic: No Time to Wait*) that has brought awareness on pressing public health issues to international diplomats and the general public alike. In the realm of children and middle-grade lit, they have worked on covers and illustrated books for clients such as HarperCollins Kids, Orca Book Publishers, and Lorimer Press. Their debut graphic memoir, *What We Leave Behind*, is forthcoming with Abrams ComicArts.

XULIN WANG


COLOR
THE NIB

QUEER SKATE CULTURE · AGING IN THE GIG ECONOMY · QUEBEC'S VANISHING FORESTS
THIS
PROGRESSIVE POLITICS, IDEAS & CULTURE
THIS MAGAZINE · CANADA'S INDEPENDENT VOICE SINCE 1967 · 55 YEARS OF THIS
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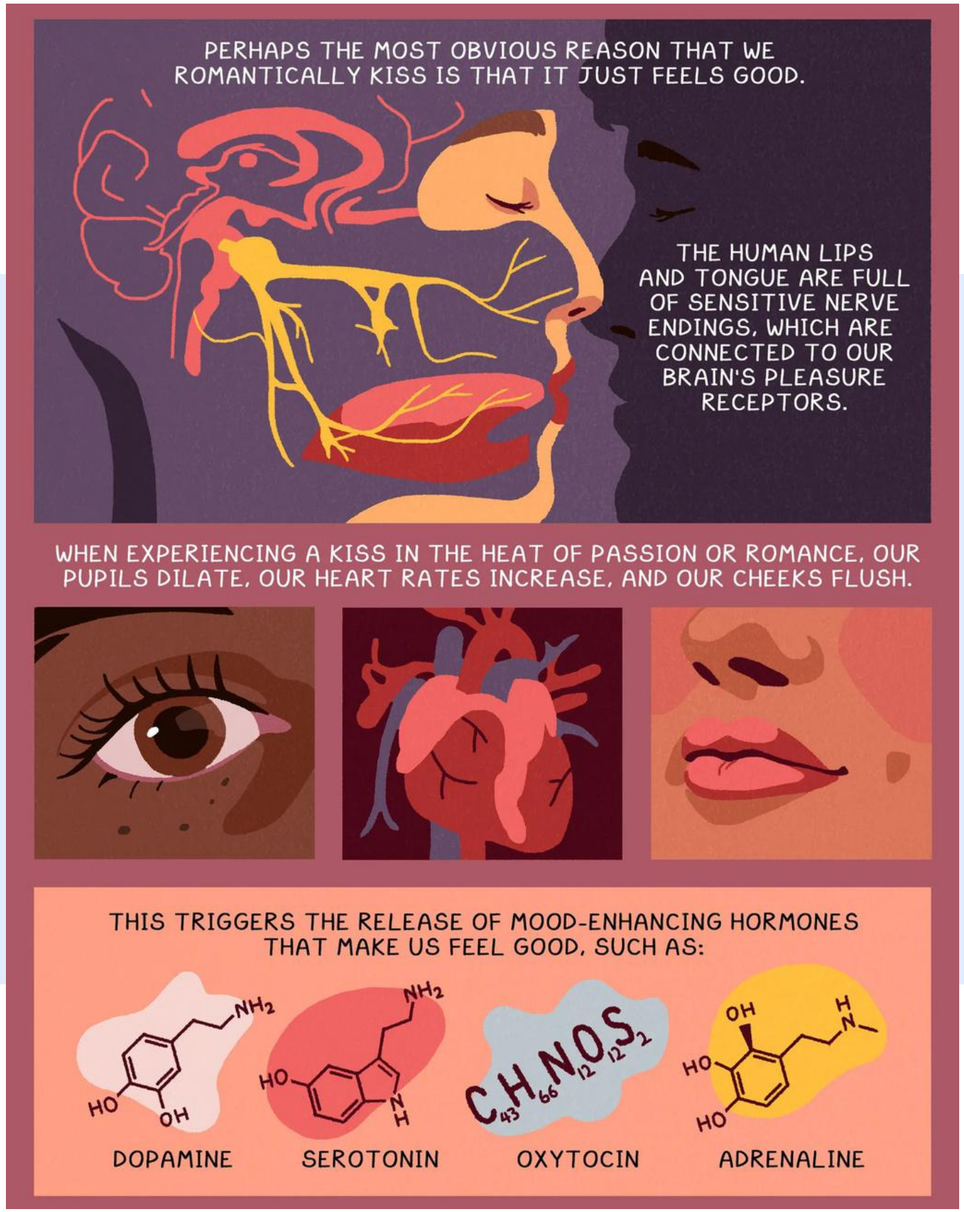
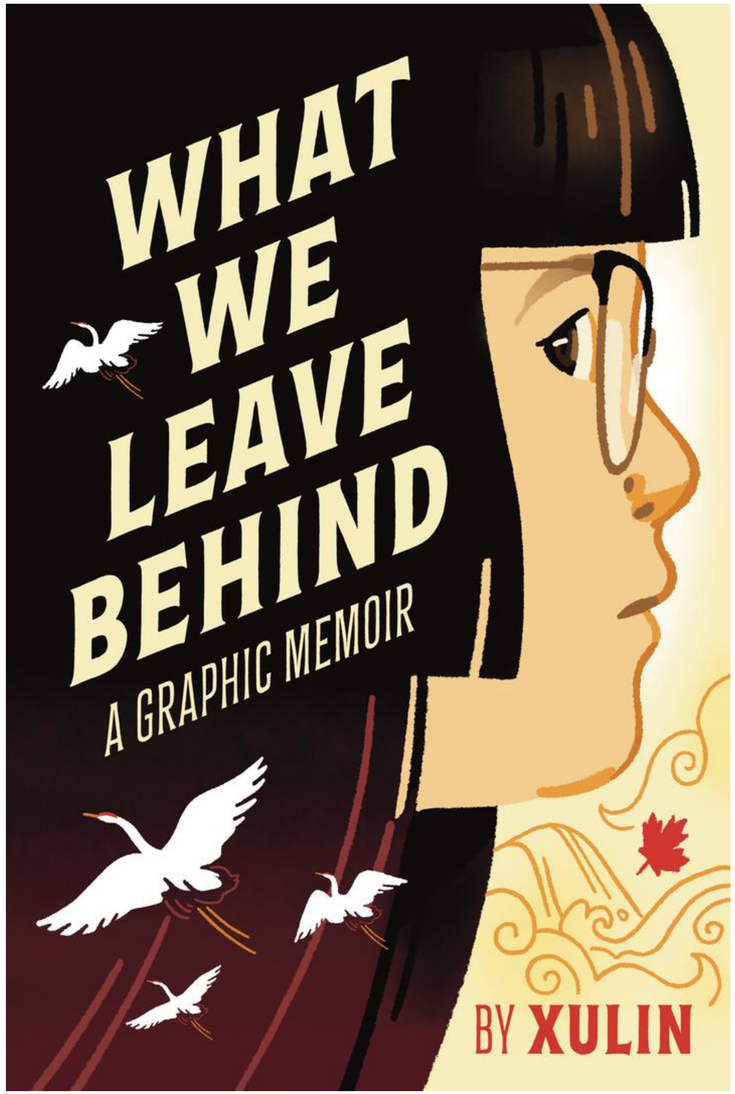

PERHAPS THE MOST OBVIOUS REASON THAT WE ROMANTICALLY KISS IS THAT IT JUST FEELS GOOD.
THE HUMAN LIPS AND TONGUE ARE FULL OF SENSITIVE NERVE ENDINGS, WHICH ARE CONNECTED TO OUR BRAIN'S PLEASURE RECEPTORS.
WHEN EXPERIENCING A KISS IN THE HEAT OF PASSION OR ROMANCE, OUR PUPILS DILATE, OUR HEART RATES INCREASE, AND OUR CHEEKS FLUSH.
THIS TRIGGERS THE RELEASE OF MOOD-ENHANCING HORMONES THAT MAKE US FEEL GOOD, SUCH AS:
DOPAMINE
SEROTONIN
OXYTOCIN
ADRENALINE



Think of Xulin for...

picture books, chapter books, middle grade, graphic novels, book covers, and adult editorial illustration.

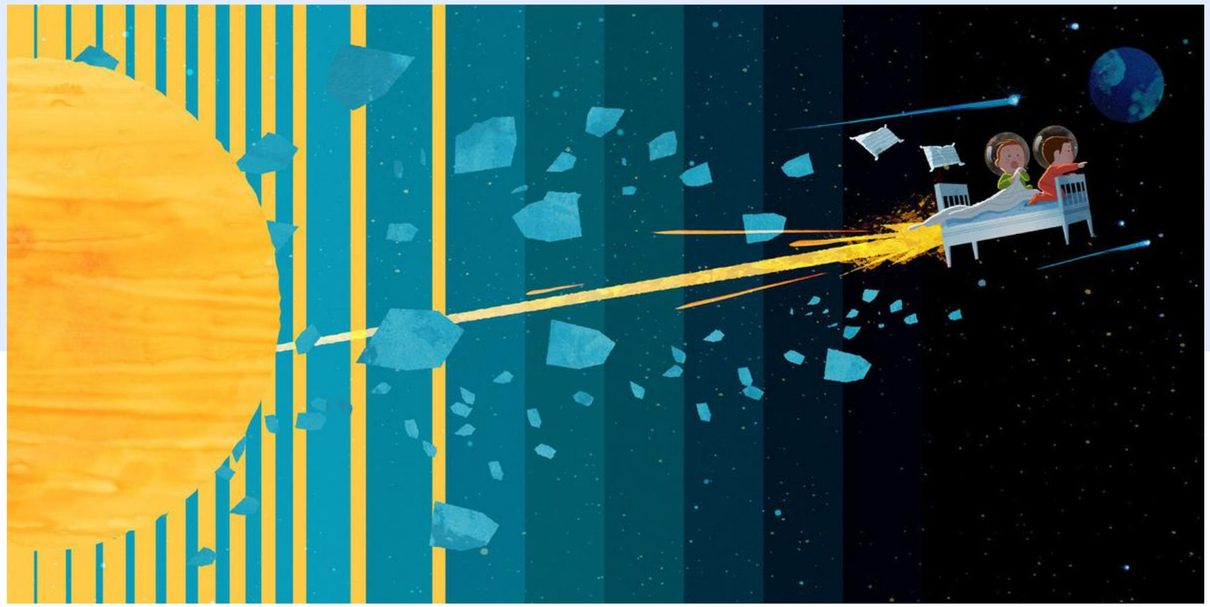
Xulin is excited about illustration for children's, adult books, and comics for all ages. They love educational nonfiction for inquisitive minds, stories about big feelings, fantasy settings, and themes related to Asian culture and the AAPI diaspora. Other favorite topics are climate change, nature, space, mythology, history, and social justice.

Representation: Maggie Cooper
mcooper@aevitascreative.com

BRIAN WON

Brian Won wore many hats as a busboy, shoe salesman, library shelver, art director, and designer before making children's books. His debut book, *Hooray for Hat!*, was published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

Raised in a Korean American household by his grandmother, Brian honed his artistic skills at the Art Center College of Design, where he earned a BFA in illustration. His awards include the Silver Medal from the Society of Illustrators and the Crystal Kite from the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Currently residing in Southern California with his wife and son, Brian continues to craft stories and illustrations for young readers.



BRIAN WON

Think of Brian for...

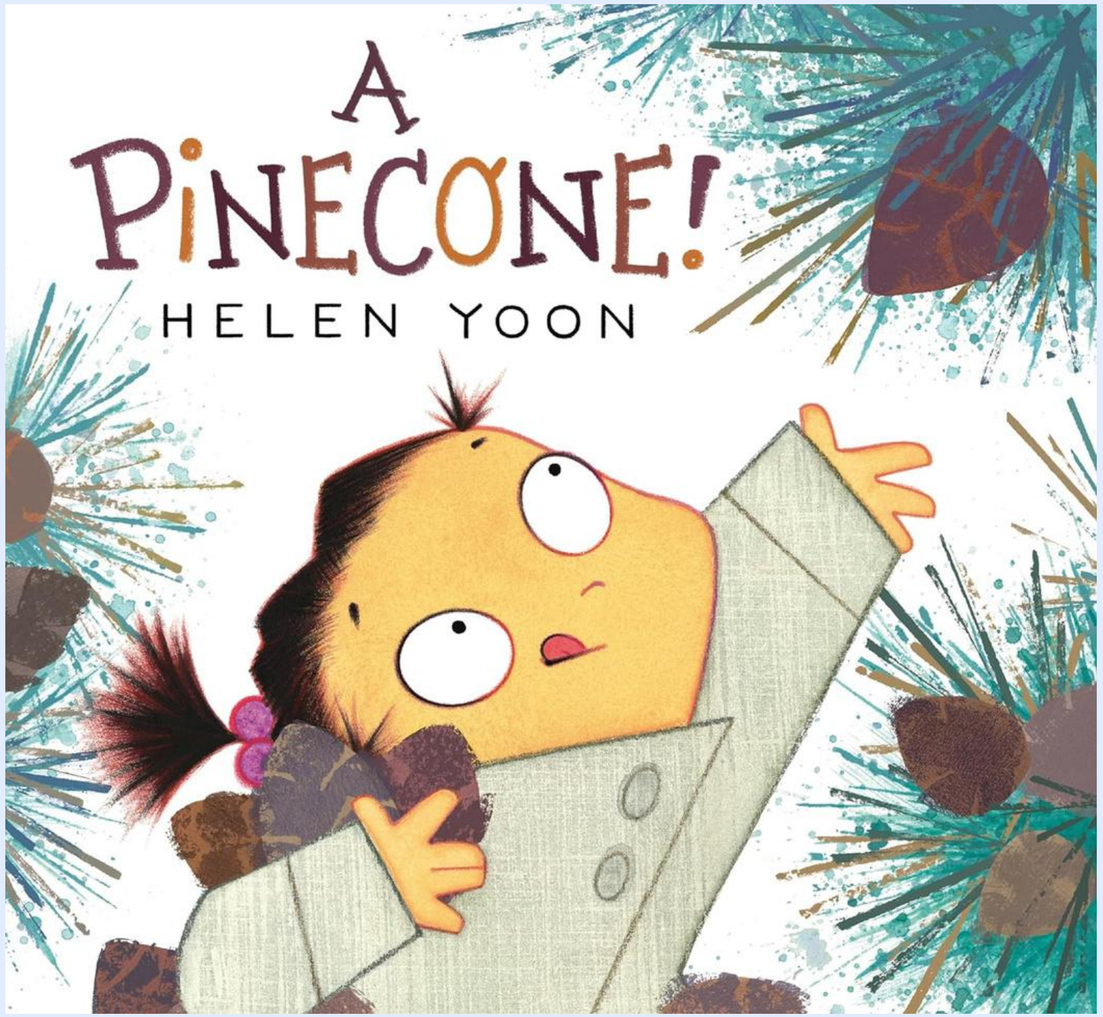
picture books.

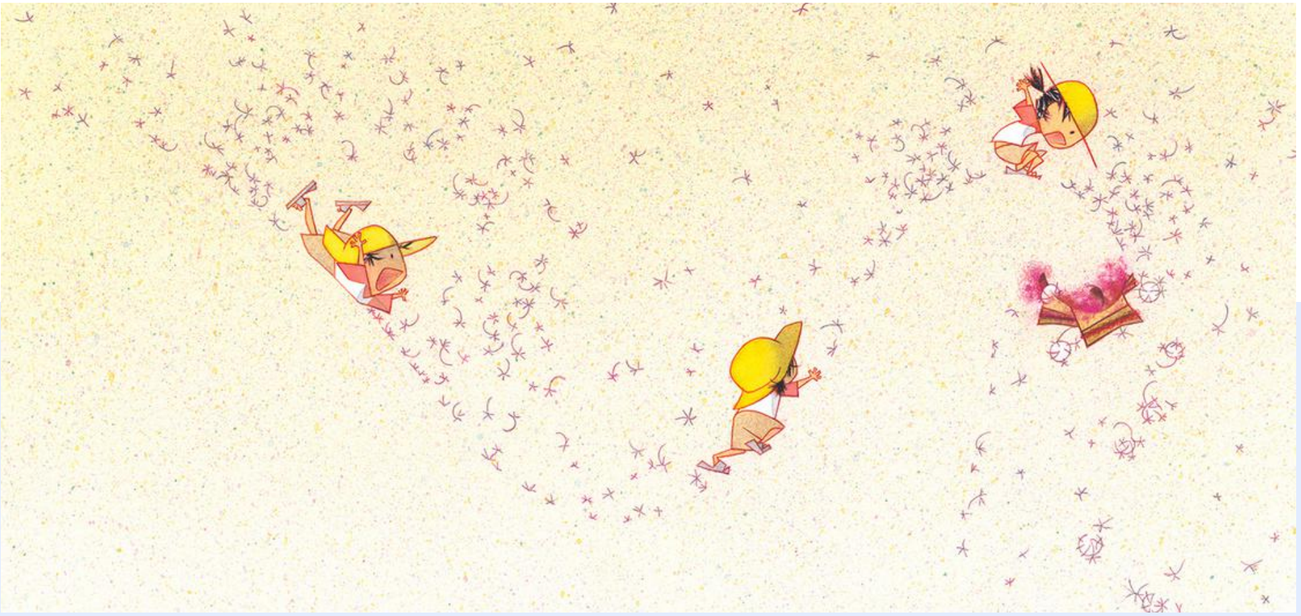
Brian's favorite recent project is *Warm & Fuzzy*, which he created using digital color pencils and other mixed media. He would love to try a wordless picture book in the future and he continues to play and experiment with new illustration techniques.

Representation: Rubin Pfeffer, Amy Thrall Flynn
rpfeffer@aevitascreative.com, aflynn@aevitascreative.com

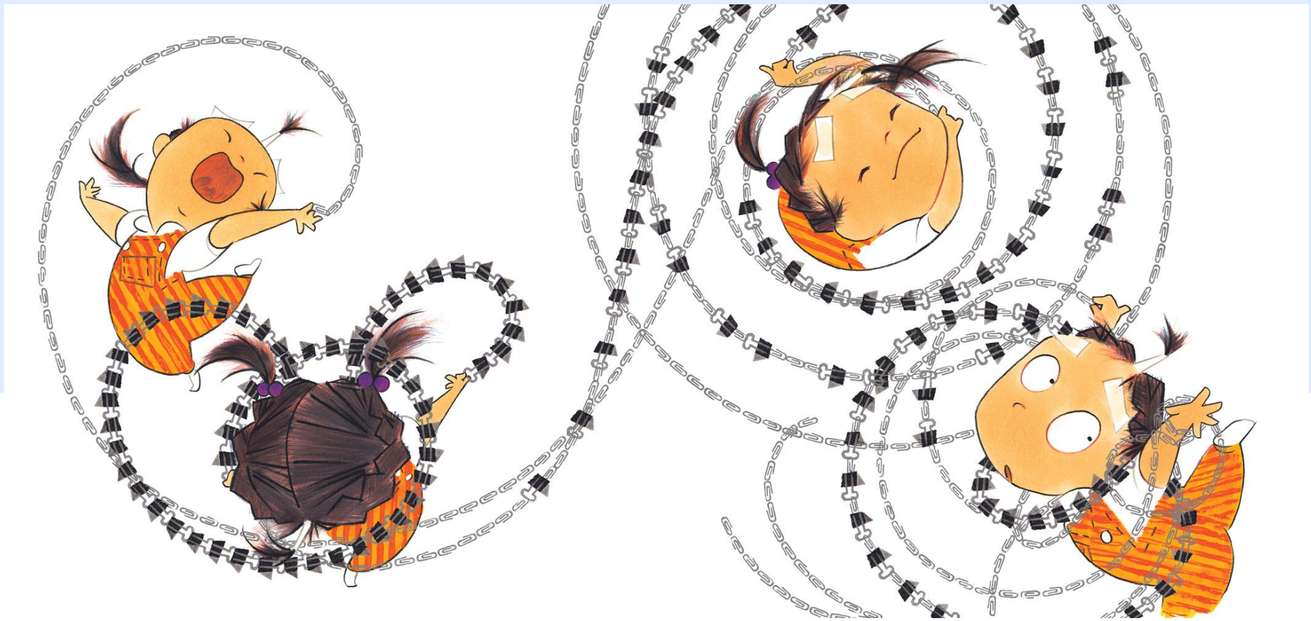
HELEN YOON

Born and raised in California, Helen Yoon graduated from the University of California, Irvine with a BS in chemistry and from Art Center College of Design with a BFA in illustration. The author-illustrator of critically acclaimed picture books including *Off-Limits* and *I'm a Unicorn*, Helen Yoon lives in the Los Angeles area. She writes and draws for a living. She is fond of sabbaticals.





VEGETARIAN
PORK
THE NO-MEAT DIET

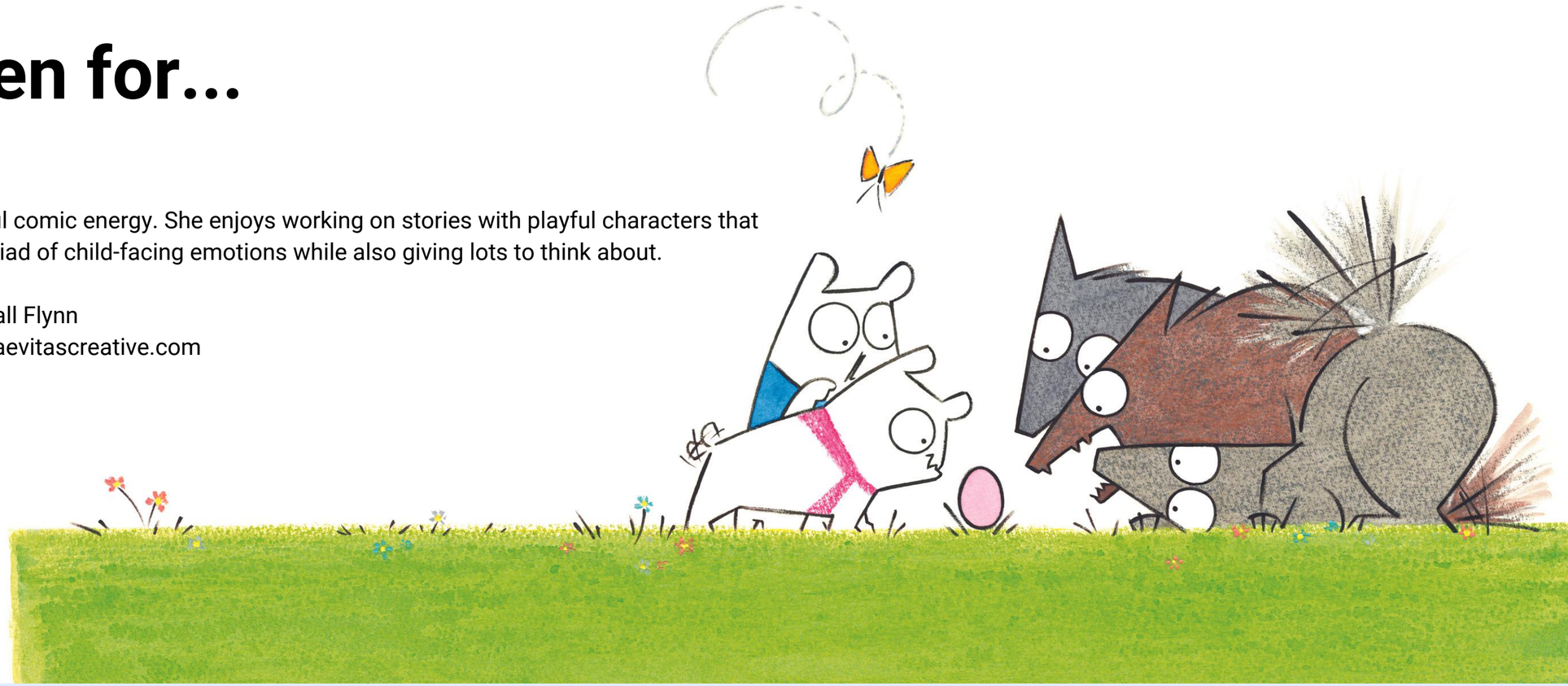


Think of Helen for...

picture books and chapter books.

Helen’s illustrations explode with gleeful comic energy. She enjoys working on stories with playful characters that exude hilarity, charm, and explore a myriad of child-facing emotions while also giving lots to think about.

Representation: Rubin Pfeffer, Amy Thrall Flynn
rpfeffer@aevitascreative.com, aflynn@aevitascreative.com



Authors

LINDA J. ACEVEDO

Linda J. Acevedo is the author of *Breaking to the Beat!* illustrated by Frank Morrison, which received 5 starred reviews and was named a Best Book of the Year by Kirkus Reviews and the New York Public Library.

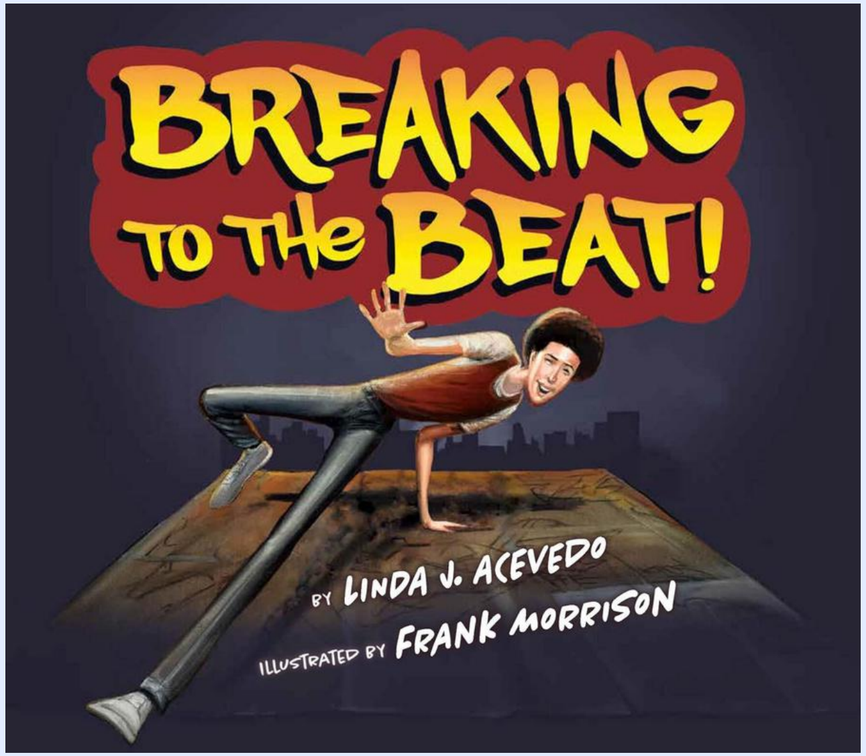
As a young child, access to the public library and scores of books shaped Linda's dreams, imagination, and movement in the world. Her storytelling is sparked by her intuitive observations and her experiences as a Latinx growing up in humble yet hopeful beginnings. She is a member of SCBWI and lives in New York.

Published titles:

- *Breaking to the Beat* (Lee & Low, 2023)

Think of Linda for: picture books

Representation: Adriana Domínguez | adominguez@aevitascreative.com



ANDREW AUSEON

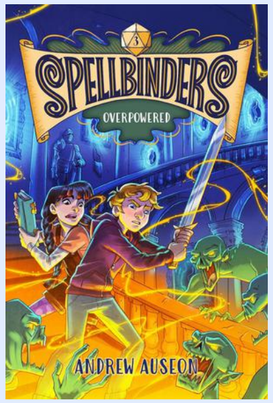
Andrew Auseon is the author of acclaimed novels for young people, including *Funny Little Monkey, Jo-Jo and the Fiendish Lot, Alienated* (with David O. Russell) and *Freak Magnet*, a Bank Street Best Book of the Year. His books have been nominated for numerous awards, including the ALA's Best Books for Young Adults, the Cybils, and state book awards. Auseon has an MFA in Creative Writing from Vermont College and a BA from Ohio University.

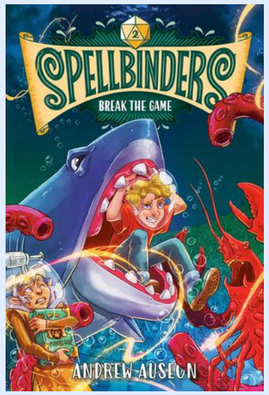
Published titles:

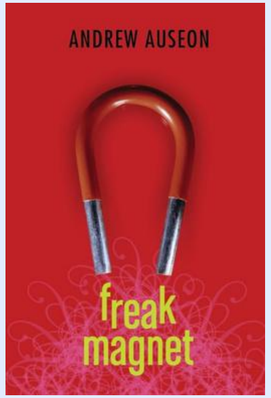
- *Spellbinders: Overpowered* (Labyrinth Road, 2025)
- *Spellbinders: Break the Game* (Labyrinth Road, 2024)
- *Spellbinders: The Not-So-Chosen One* (Labyrinth Road, 2023)
- *Freak Magnet* (HarperCollins, 2010)
- *Alienated* (Aladdin, 2009)
- *Jo-Jo and the Fiendish Lot* (HarperTeen, 2009)
- *Funny Little Monkey* (Clarion, 2006)

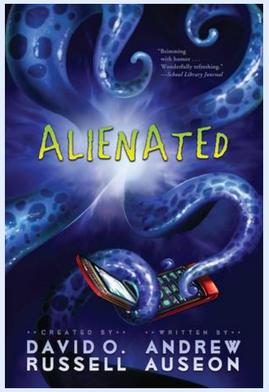
Think of Andrew for: middle grade adventure full of quirky humor and memorable characters, gaming-related stories, graphic novel/comic scripts, fantasy, science fiction, and other genre tales that feature rich world building.

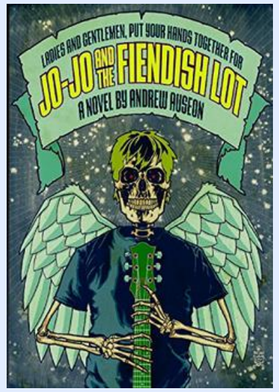
Representation: Erica Bauman and Jen Gates
ebauman@aevitascreative.com, jgates@aevitascreative.com

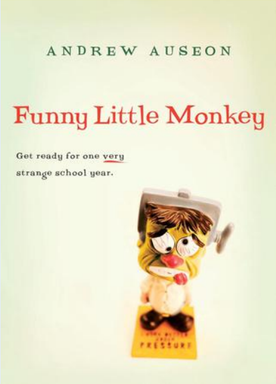












SCOTT BEAN

Currently living in Seattle WA, Scott Bean graduated from University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2008 with a Communications degree. When he’s not writing, he can be found flying over the Puget Sound or over-growing tropical plants in his mobile greenhouse.

Think of Scott for: middle grade and young adult projects.

Representation: Erica Bauman and Jen Gates
ebauman@aevitascreative.com, jgates@aevitascreative.com

JESSICA BENOIST-YOUNG

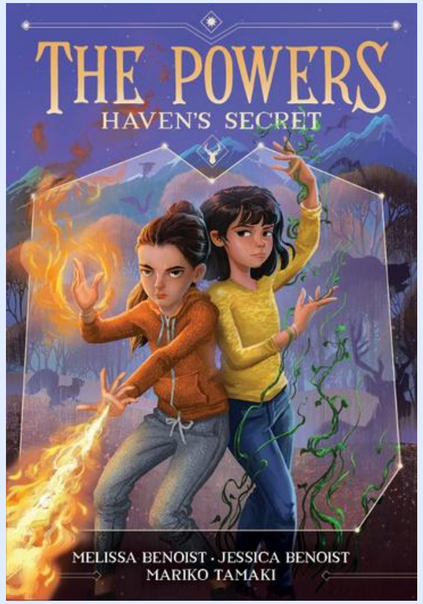
Jessica Benoist-Young is a prolific ghostwriter across many genres, with experience in copy editing, developmental editing and journalism. Alongside her sister Melissa Benoist, she co-authored *The Powers* series published by Amulet. *The Powers: Haven's Secret*, won the 2022 Kansas Notable Book Award.

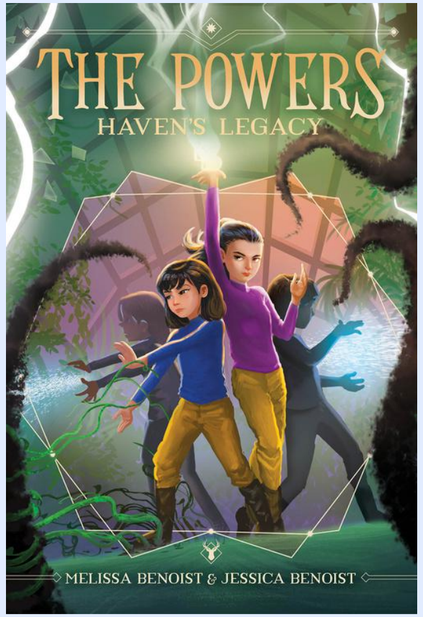
Published titles:

- *The Powers: Haven's Legacy* (Amulet, 2023)
- *The Powers: Haven's Secret* (Amulet, 2021)

Think of Jessica for: middle grade and young adult projects.

Representation: Erica Bauman | ebauman@aevitascreative.com





JULIE BLIVEN

Julie Bliven recently launched her writing career with the debut picture book *Sometimes Shy*. Separately, she has been an editor of books for young children for more than fifteen years. She holds a master's degree in children's literature from Simmons University, where she has mentored and taught in the MFA program. Julie lives in Yarmouth, Maine, with her husband, son, and their dog, Lucy.

Published and forthcoming titles:

- *A Song for Wally Dog* (Union Square, TBD)
- *The Together House* (Knopf, 2028)
- *Periwinkle to Portland* (Islandport Press, 2027)
- *Sometimes Shy* (Beaming Books, 2023)

Think of Julie for: fiction picture books and chapter books, friendship, grief, humor, disability, and nature.

Representation: Erin Murphy | emurphy@aevitascreative.com

HÉLÈNE BOUDREAU

Hélène Boudreau grew up on an island surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean but now writes fiction and nonfiction for kids from her land-locked home in Ontario, Canada. She has never time-travelled or saved an endangered bird, nor has she ever spotted a mermaid in the wild, but she believes mermaids are just as plausible as sea horses, flying fish, or electric eels.

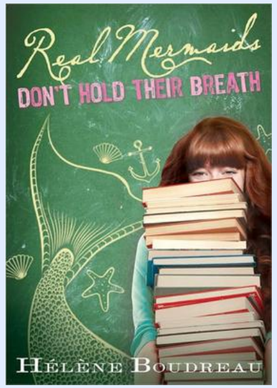
Her picture book, *I Dare You Not to Yawn*, is a 2013 Parents' Choice Award winner and a 2014 SCBWI Crystal Kite Award winner. Her tween novel, *Real Mermaids Don't Wear Toe Rings* is a 2011 Crystal Kite Member Choice Award Finalist.

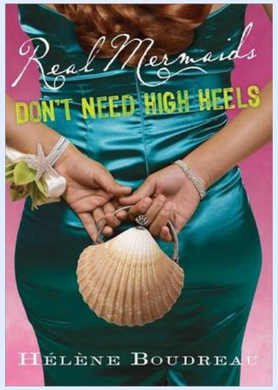
Published titles:

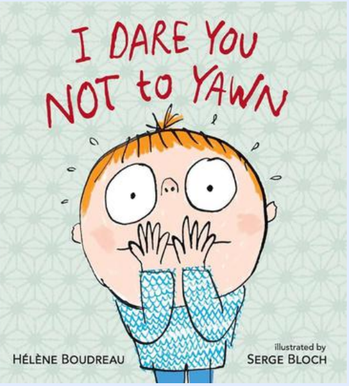
- *I Dare You Not to Yawn (Candlewick, 2013)*
- *The Real Mermaids Series (Jabberwocky, 2010-2013)*
  - *Real Mermaids Don't Wear Toe Rings*
  - *Real Mermaids Don't Hold Their Breath*
  - *Real Mermaids Don't Need High Heels*
  - *Real Mermaids Don't Sell Seashells*

Think of Hélène for: picture books through middle grade projects.

Representation: Lauren MacLeod | lmacleod@aevitascreative.com







CALISTA BRILL

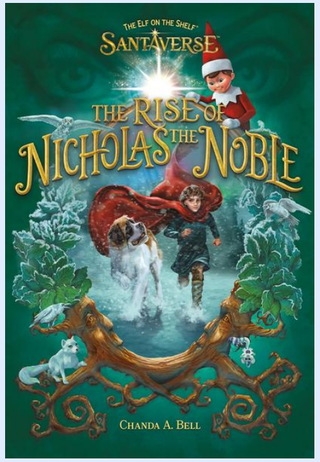
Originally from Detroit, Michigan, Calista Brill is a writer and editor based in New England and is Editorial Director at First Second. She writes stories about boats, cats, dragons, construction equipment, elephants, and many other things. Her latest book is *Creaky Acres*, with Nilah Magruder, a bestselling middle-grade graphic novel about riding horses and finding your people. She has published dozens of IP projects and especially adores ghost writing. She publishes most of her non-ghosted IP work under Calliope Glass.

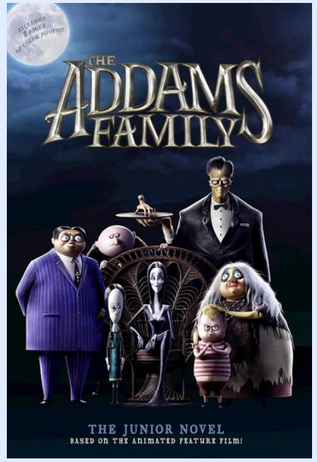
Published and forthcoming titles:

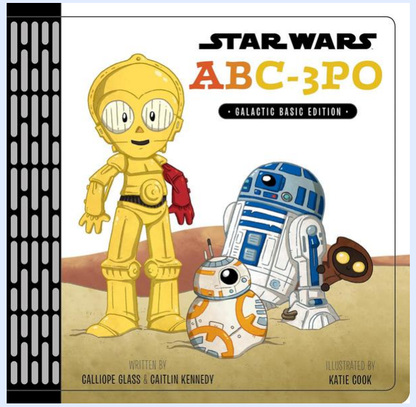
- *The Nature of Change* (ZonderKidz, 2026), from news anchor René Marsh
- *The Elf on the Shelf SantaVerse: The Rise of Nicholas the Noble* (HarperCollins, 2025), with the creator of the Elf on the Shelf
- *Meet Me in the Middle: A VeeFriends Book* (HarperCollins, 2024), from entrepreneur Gary Vaynerchuk
- *Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls* (Penguin Random House, 2023)
- *Tell Me Your Dreams* (HarperCollins, 2023), with Amanda Kloots
- *There's a Rock Concert in My Bedroom (Penguin Random House, 2022), from the vision of Kevin Jonas*

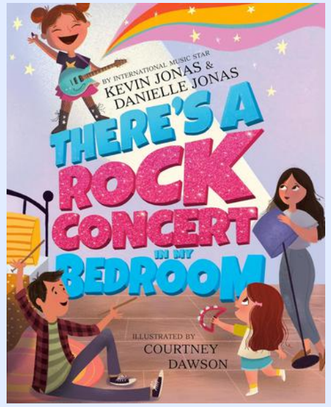
Think of Calista for: board books, picture books, MG, graphic novels, fiction, nonfiction, biographies, humor, voicy, poetic, horses, music, dragons, SEL.

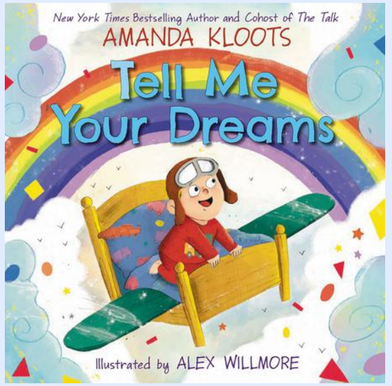
Representation: Erin Murphy | emurphy@aevitascreative.com

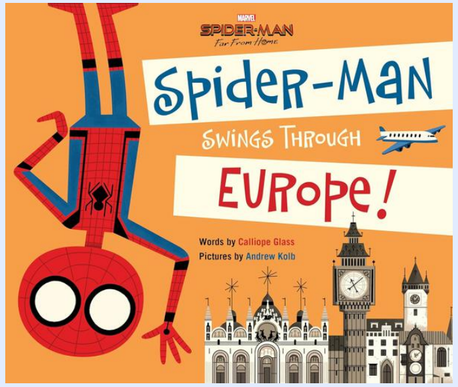












ANGELA CERVANTES

Angela Cervantes is the award-winning author of several popular contemporary middle-grade novels published by Scholastic including, *Lety Out Loud*, which was named a Pura Belpré Honor Book by the American Library Association and selected for the KidsIndie Next List, *Me, Frida and the Secret of the Peacock Ring*, which was named a Junior Library Guild Selection and included in the prestigious Texas Bluebonnet Master List, *Allie, First at Last*, which received a starred review from *Kirkus*, and *Gaby, Lost and Found*, named Best Youth Chapterbook by the International Latino Book Awards and a Bank Street College of Education's Best Book of the Year. Angela also authored the journal and original novel that accompany Raquel Reyes, American Girl's Year of the Girl 2026, and the junior novelizations for Disney/Pixar's animated films *Coco* and *Encanto*. Her spooky middle grade novel *The Cursed Moon* (Scholastic), was included in the Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List for 2024-2025. Angela's latest title is the first in her new middle grade fantasy-adventure series *Anomalies 53*, published by HarperCollins. Forthcoming books include *The Mystery of the Missing World Cup Trophy*, a soccer themed adventure mystery that will be published by Macmillan in time for the 2026 World Cup.

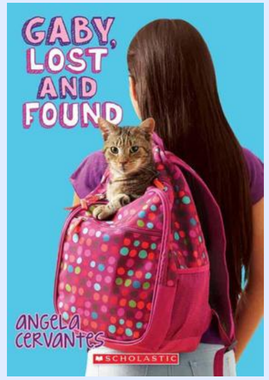
Angela is the daughter of a retired middle-school teacher who instilled in her a love of reading and storytelling. When Angela is not writing, she enjoys conducting school visits, traveling and reading. Angela writes, reads and dreams from her home in Kansas City.

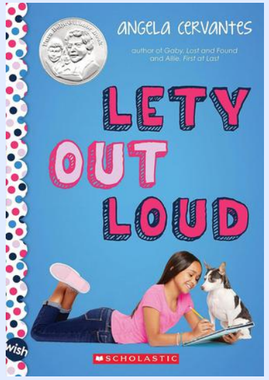
Published and forthcoming titles:

- *The Mystery of the Missing World Cup Trophy* (forthcoming, Macmillan)
- *Anomalies 53* (HarperCollins)
- *The Cursed Moon (Scholastic Press, 2023)*
- *Lety Out Loud: A Wish Novel* (Scholastic Press, 2019)
- ...and many more!

Think of Angela for: middle grade projects.

Representation: Adriana Domínguez | adominguez@aevitascreative.com





ZACK LORAN CLARK

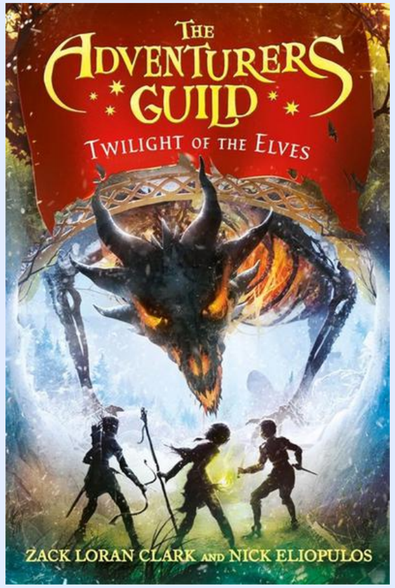
Zack Loran Clark is a writer and editor of books for young readers. He is the author of *The Lock-Eater* and *The Bleakwatch Chronicles* series, and co-author of *The Adventurers Guild* and *Doomsday Archives* trilogies with Nick Eliopulos. A lifelong fantasy nerd, avid Dungeons & Dragons player, and aspiring sorcerer, he lives with his husband and their dog in Brooklyn, NY.

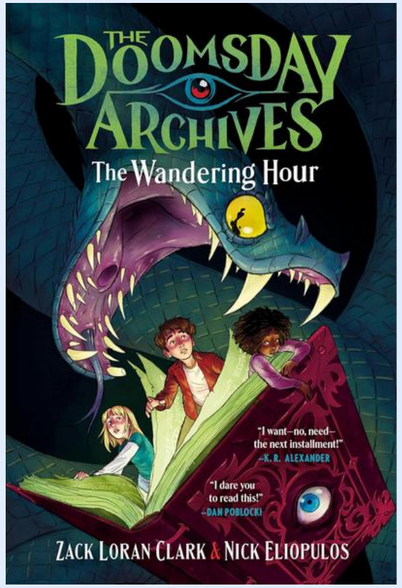
Published titles:

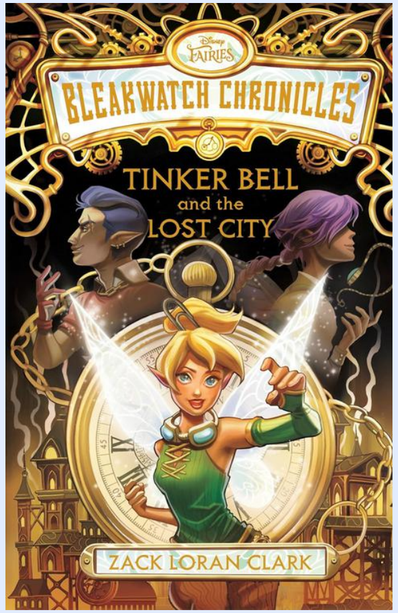
- The Adventurers Guild trilogy (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)
- *The Doomsday Archives* trilogy (Zando Young Readers)
- *The Bleakwatch Chronicles: Tinker Bell* series (Random House/Disney)
- *The Lock-Eater* (Dial Books)

Think of Zack for: adventure, fantasy, sci-fi, and horror.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette | ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com







EMI WATANABE COHEN

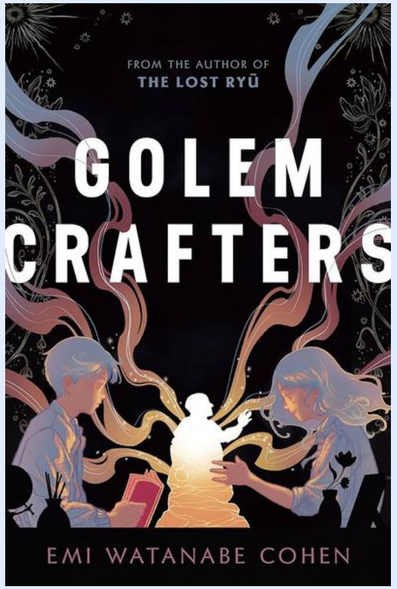
Emi Watanabe Cohen is a children's author whose work usually involves Jewish and/or Japanese folklore, complicated families, and a dash of improbable magic. Her debut novel, *The Lost Ryu*, is now available wherever books are sold. *Golemcrafters* is slated for release in Fall 2024.

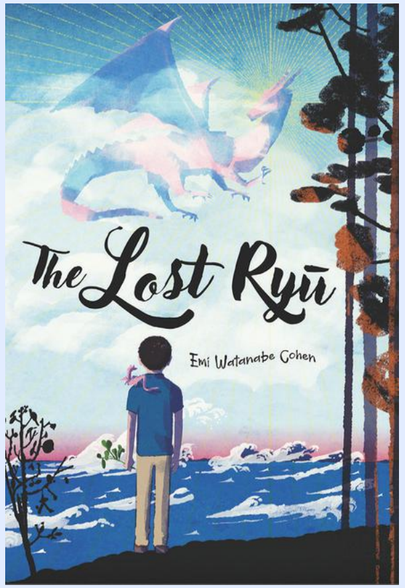
Published titles:

- *Golemcrafters* (Levine Querido, 2024)
- *The Lost Ryu* (Levine Querido, 2022)

Think of Emi for: middle grade projects.

Representation: Mary C. Moore | mmoore@aevitascreative.com





ANGEL LUIS COLÓN

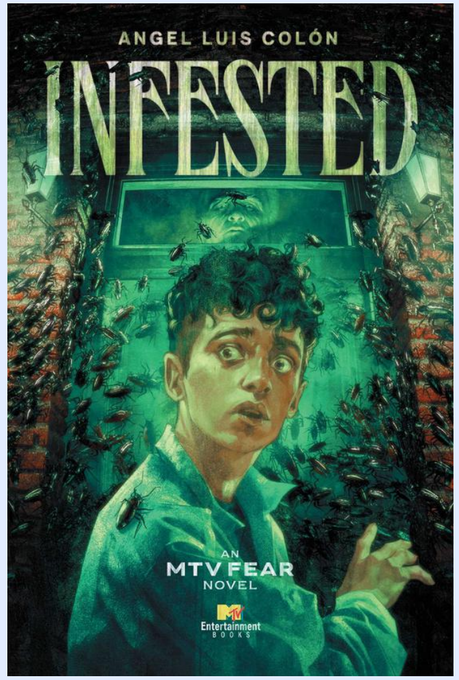
Angel Luis Colón is the Derringer Award– and Anthony Award–nominated author of *Hell Chose Me*, the Blacky Jaguar series of novellas, *No Happy Endings*, and the short story collection *Meat City on Fire and Other Assorted Debacles*. His work has also appeared in multiple web and print publications including *Thuglit, Literary Orphans,* and *Great Jones Street. Infested* is his debut young adult novel.

Published titles:

- *Minecraft: House of Horrors* (Random House Worlds, 2025)
- *Infested* (MTV Books, 2023)
- *Hell Chose Me* (adult thriller, Down & Out Books, 2019)
- *Meat City on Fire and Other Assorted Debacles* (adult short story collection, Down & Out Books, 2017)
- *No Happy Endings* (adult thriller, Down & Out Books, 2016)

Think of Angel for: horror, speculative, gaming, and other middle grade through young adult projects.

Representation: Jon Michael Darga | jdarga@aevitascreative.com



KAYLA COTTINGHAM

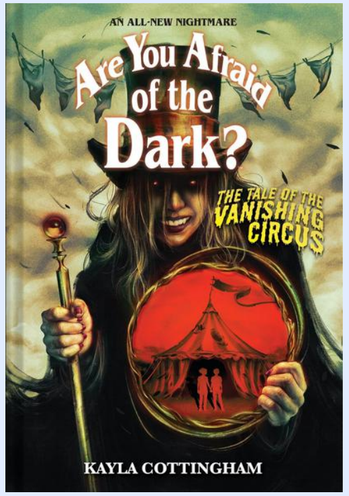
Kayla Cottingham is a YA author and librarian. Their first book, *My Dearest Darkest*, was a New York Times and Publisher's Weekly bestseller, an ALA 2023 Rainbow Book List Selection, a New England Book Award finalist, made The Children's Book Council's 2023 Young Adult Favorites Award List, and a Barnes & Noble YA Monthly Pick. Their sophomore novel, *This Delicious Death*, published in April 2023 from Sourcebooks Fire and received starred reviews from Kirkus, Publisher's Weekly, and The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books. Originally from Salt Lake City, Utah, Kayla lives in Boston where they loves to go hiking in the woods, play RPGs, and snuggle on the couch with their ridiculously large black cat, Squid.

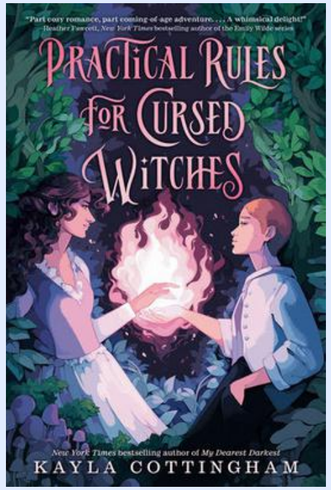
Published titles:

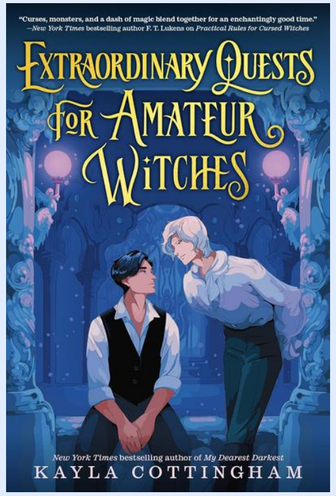
- *Are You Afraid of the Dark? The Tale of the Vanishing Circus* (Amulet, 2025)
- *Extraordinary Quests for Amateur Witches* (Delacorte, 2025)
- *Practical Rules for Cursed Witches* (Delacorte, 2024)
- *This Delicious Death* (Sourcebooks Fire, 2023)
- *My Dearest Darkest* (Sourcebooks Fire, 2022)

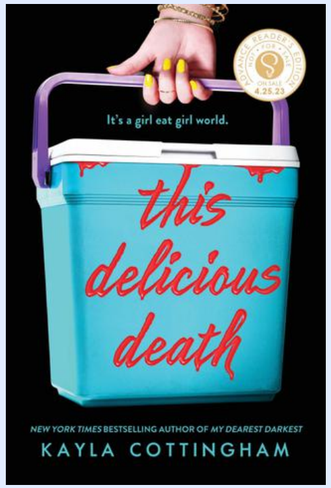
Think of Kayla for: YA horror, fantasy, and romance stories with queer protagonists.

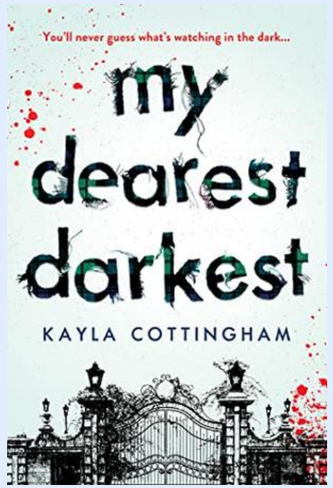
Representation: Erica Bauman | ebauman@aevitascreative.com











ALEX CRESPO

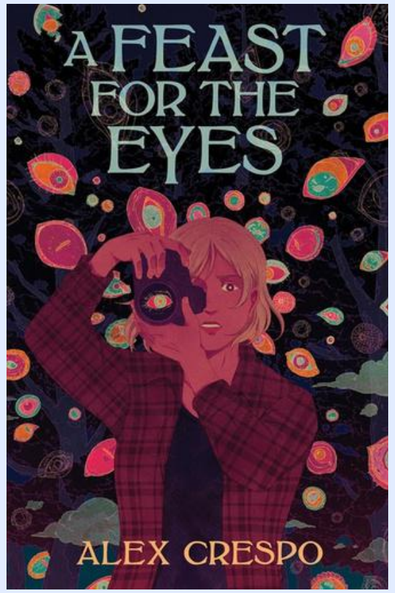
Born and raised in the Great Lakes, Alex Crespo writes about queer love, magic, and all the ways they intersect. When not writing, you can find him making art or daydreaming about Mothman. He currently lives in Chicago with an endless anime watchlist and his black cat Hex. *Saint Juniper's Folly* is his debut novel.

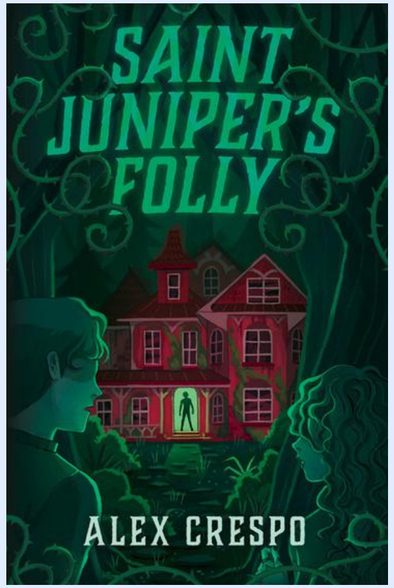
Published titles:

- *Feast for the Eyes* (Peachtree Teen, 2025)
- *Queerceañera* (HarperTeen, 2024)
- *Saint Jupiter's Folly* (Peachtree Teen, 2023)

Think of Alex for: young adult projects.

Representation: Mary C. Moore | mmoore@aevitascreative.com





JILL ESBAUM

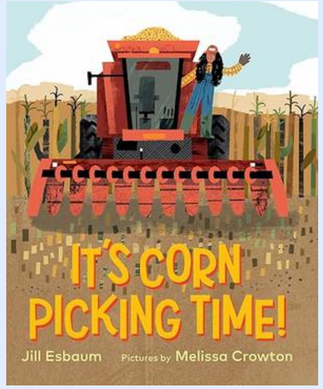
Jill Esbaum is the award-winning author of more than 65 books for children, including fiction/nonfiction picture books, graphic early readers, and a wide range of WFH narrative nonfiction. She lives on a family farm in eastern Iowa.

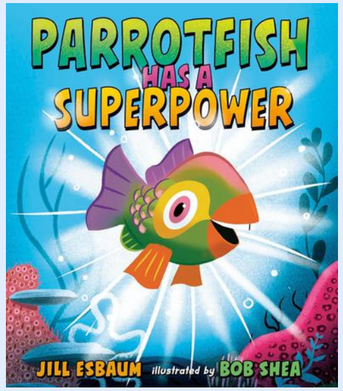
Published titles:

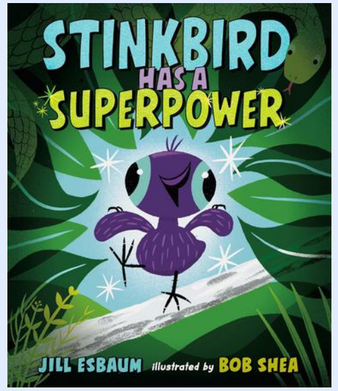
- *It's Corn Picking Time* (Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, 2025)
- *Polecat Has a Superpower* (Putnam, 2025)
- *Parrotfish Has a Superpower* (Putnam 2024)
- *Stinkbird Has a Superpower* (Putnam, 2023)
- *Bird Girl* (Calkins Creek, 2024)
- *Jack Knight's Brave Flight* (Calkins Creek, 2022)
- *Thunder and Cluck* series (Little Simon, 2022)

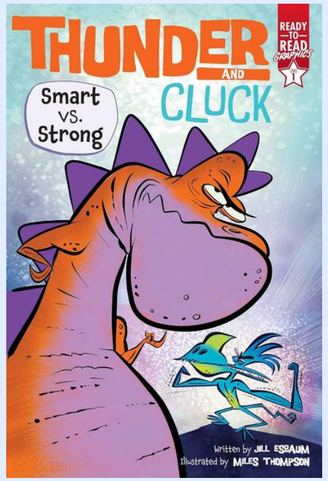
Think of Jill for: projects for children 2-10.

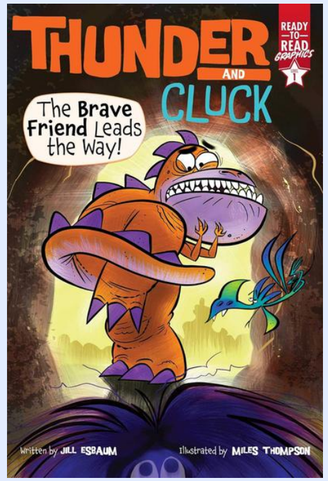
Representation: Tricia Lawrence | tlawrence@aevitascreative.com

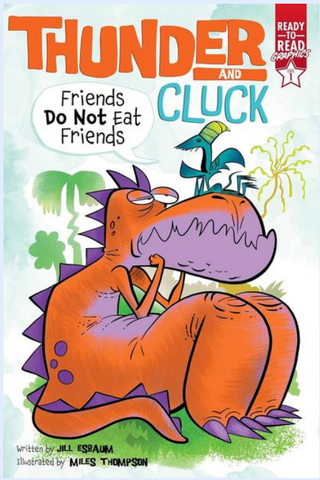












GIA GORDON

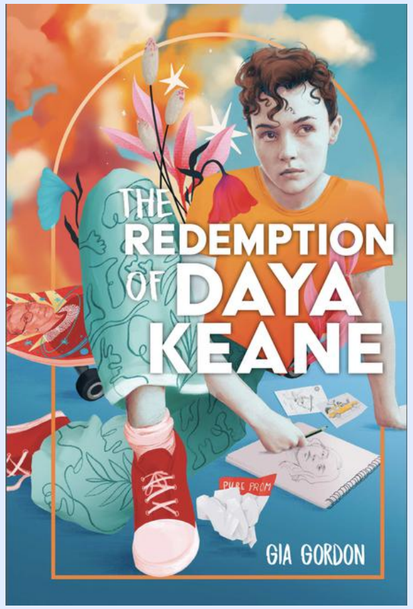
Gia Gordon is a disabled author, speaker, youth activist, and former educator. Her 2024 YA debut, *The Redemption of Daya Keane,* earned a starred review from *School Library Journal* and is a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection. Her 2024 MG debut, *My So-Called Family*, earned two starred reviews (Kirkus, Publishers Weekly), was named a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection, named a Kirkus Best Books of 2024 for middle grade, named a Bookshop.org Best Books of the Year for Kids' Chapter Books, and has been longlisted for the Pedro and Daniel Intersectionality Award. Her new MG, *Strays*, will come out in June 2026. Common themes in Gia's work include chosen and found family, hidden identities, and the transformative power of showing up. As a dedicated children's literacy advocate, Gia is co-founder of Never Counted Out, a nonprofit that sends children's books of all levels and genres to programs and classrooms where access to reading material isn't readily available. When she’s not writing, Gia can be found thrifting or turning no-longer-wanted household goods into beautifully reimagined designs.

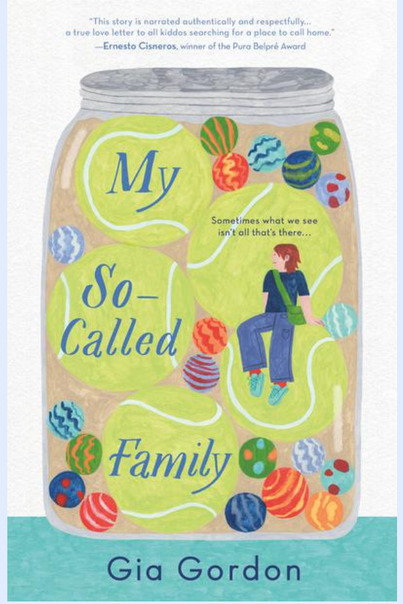
Published and forthcoming titles:

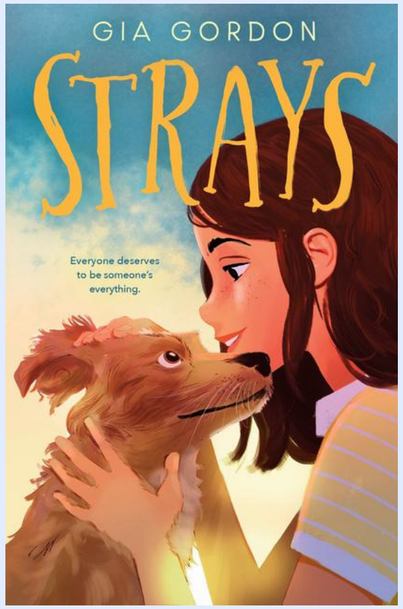
- *Strays* (forthcoming from FSG BFYR)
- *My So-Called Family* (FSG BFYR, 2024)
- *The Redemption of Daya Keane* (HarperCollins, 2024)

Think of Gia for: board book, picture book, MG, YA, fiction, SEL, disability stories, pets, families (in various iterations thereof), school experiences, queer experiences, emerging language, friendship.

Representation: Erin Murphy | emurphy@aevitascreative.com







TOMMY GREENWALD

Tommy Greenwald is the author of many books for young people, including the beloved middle grade sports novels set in the fictional town of Walthorne: *Game Changer*, which was a YALSA Top Ten Pick for Reluctant Readers, an Amazon Best Book of The Month, a Junior Library Guild Gold Premiere selection, and the winner of the Connecticut, Kentucky and Rhode Island Middle School Reading Awards; *Rivals*; *Dinged*; *The Right Call*; and the soon-to-be-published *Half Court Shot*. Two new graphic novels set in Walthorne are forthcoming.

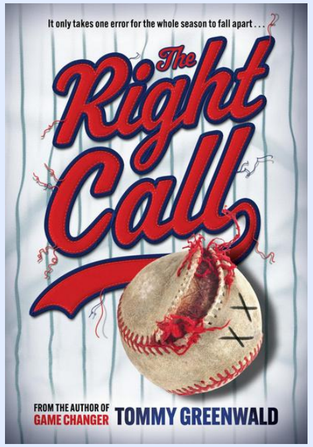
Tommy wrote *The Rescues,* an early-reader series, in collaboration with his son Charlie. He is also the author of several children's book series including the hilarious Charlie Joe Jackson books, *Crimebiters*, *Project Z*, and *The Good Sports League*.

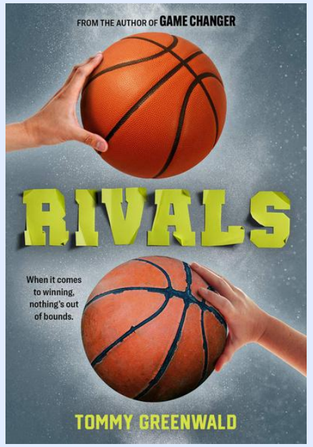
Published and forthcoming titles:

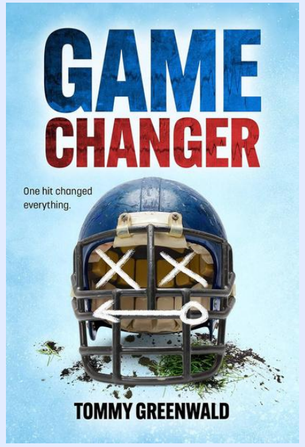
- *The Weird World of Sports* series (forthcoming from Little Brown/Ottaviano)
- *Leave it All on the Field* (forthcoming from Abrams)
- *Half Court Shot* (Abrams, 2027)
- *The Right Call* (Abrams, 2025)
- *The Rescues series* (Red Comet, 2024-2026)
- *The Good Sports League series* (Abrams, 2023)

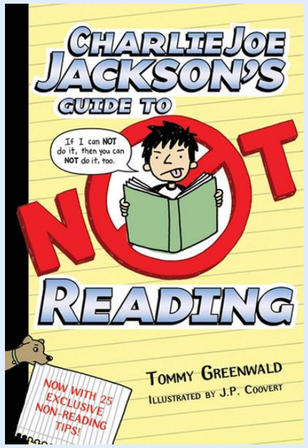
Think of Tommy for: chapter books and middle grade novels.

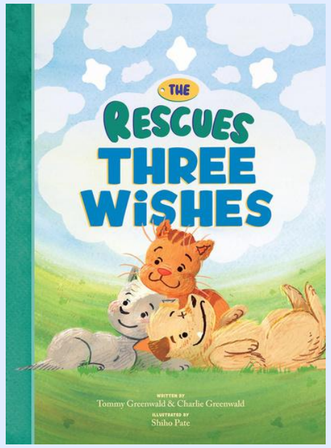
Representation: Amy Thrall Flynn | aflynn@aevitascreative.com

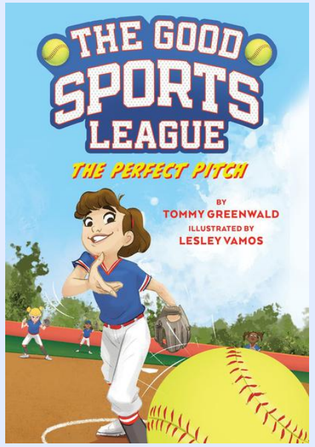












KERSTEN HAMILTON

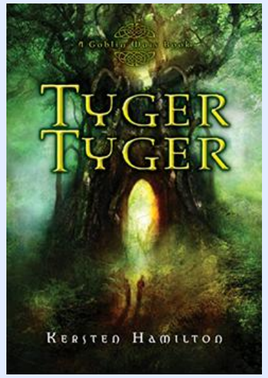
Kersten Hamilton is a critically acclaimed author of books for toddlers, teens, and all people in between. They were born in a trailer in the mountains of southern New Mexico, where a wayward fairy gifted them with dyslexia, dysgraphia, and autism spectrum disorder. Their unique experience of the world and the wonderful people in it has led them to write fast-paced stories that are loved by readers around the globe, including *Red Truck* (illustrated by Valeria Petrone), which has sold almost a quarter of a million copies, and companions *Yellow Copter, Blue Boat, Green Tractor, Orange Excavator,* and *Merry Christmas, Red Truck*! Their picture book about the evolution of dogs, *First Friend* (illustrated by Jaime Kim), was called “lyrical” and “delightful” by Kirkus and received a starred review from SLJ, and their YA novel *In the Forests of the Night* (second in the Goblin Wars trilogy) led Kirkus to call her “a wizard at creating tension.” Kersten is currently writing a middle-grade novel set in the fascinating world of Minecraft.

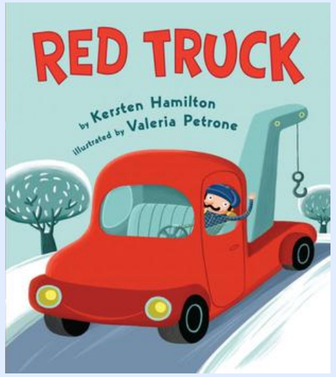
Published and forthcoming titles:

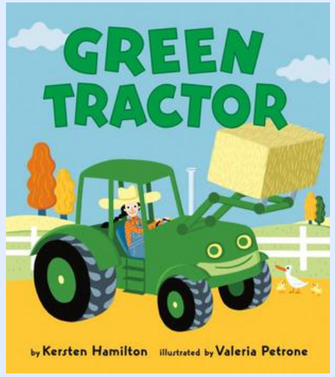
- *Lilibet Makes a Friend* (forthcoming from Disney Hyperion)
- *Red Truck and Friends* series (Viking Books for Young Readers)
- *Gadgets and Gears* series (Clarion Books)

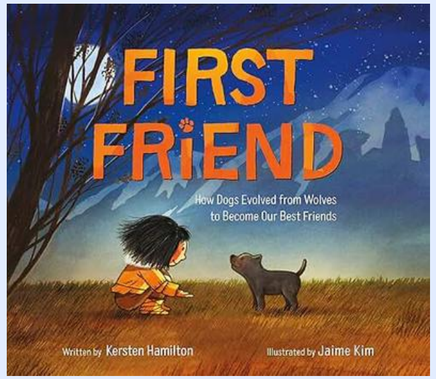
Think of Kersten for: board books; poetry, fiction, and NF picture books; MG fiction and NF; historical young adult fiction; neurodiversity; anything that allows them to research new and exciting things. They are especially keen on finding a project dealing with fascism in a historical context.

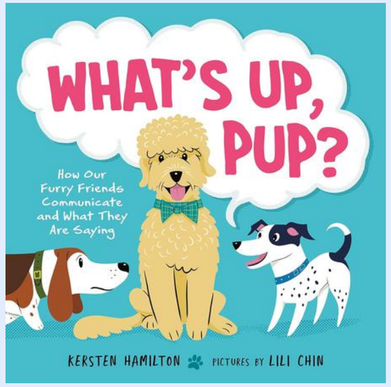
Representation: Erin Murphy | emurphy@aevitascreative.com

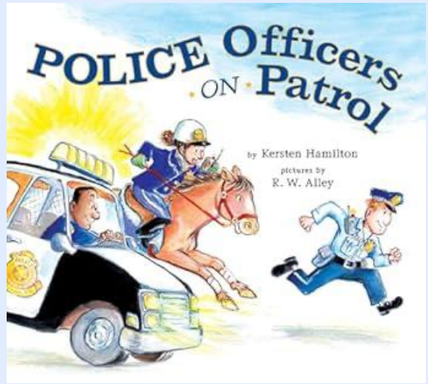












VAN HOANG

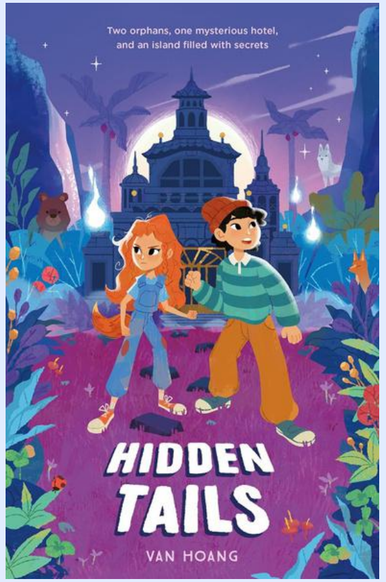
Van Hoang's first name is pronounced like the van in minivan. Her last name is pronounced "hah-wawng." She is the author of *Girl Giant and the Monkey King*, *Girl Giant and the Jade War,* and the forthcoming *Auntie Q's Golden Claws Nail Salon* for middle grade readers. She also writes and has published adult speculative novels. She earned her bachelor's in English at the University of New Mexico and her master's in library information science at San Jose State University. She was born in Vietnam, grew in up Orange County, California, and now resides in Los Angeles with her husband, kid, and dog. When she is not writing, she spends her days force-feeding books to small children (and adults!) at the library. She loves boba.

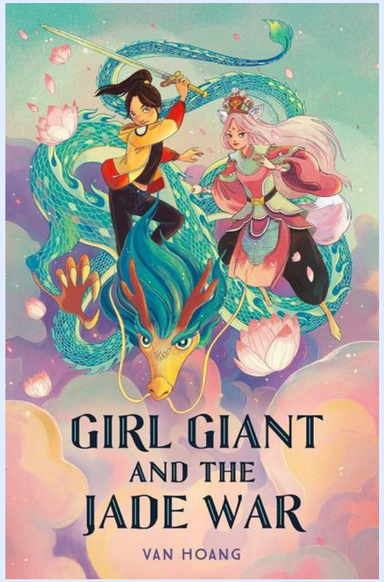
Published and forthcoming titles:

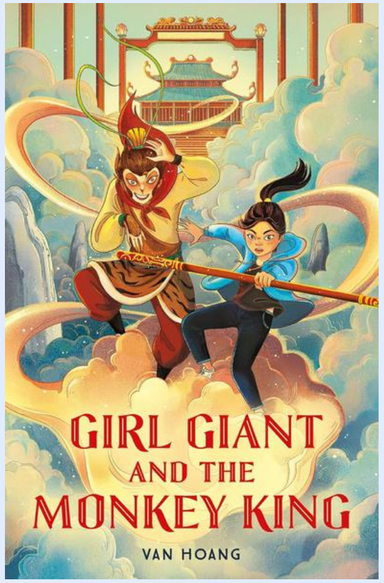
- *Auntie Q's Golden Claws Nail Salon* (forthcoming from Roaring Brook Press)
- *Hidden Tails* (forthcoming from Roaring Brook Press)
- *Girl Giant and the Jade War* (Roaring Brook Press, 2021)
- *Girl Giant and the Monkey King* (Roaring Brook Press, 2020)

Think of Van for: picture books, chapter books, middle grade and young adult, Vietnamese-American history and culture, Vietnamese folktales, second generation stories, Southern California history and culture.

Representation: Mary C. Moore | mmoore@aevitascreative.com







PHILIP HOELZEL

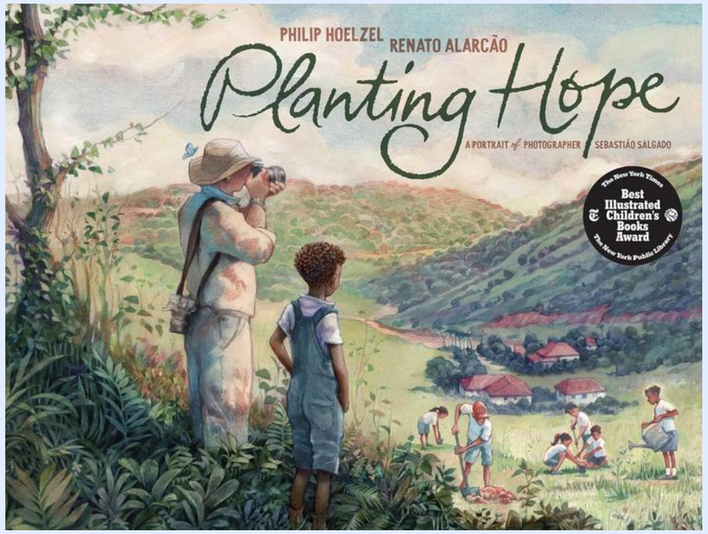
Philip Hoelzel is the author of *Planting Hope: A Portrait of Photographer Sebastião Salgado* and *Samba! The Heartbeat of a Community: Ailton Nunes's Musical Journey*. Philip was born and raised near Chicago, Illinois. As a child he played soccer, went camping with his parents and siblings and spent a lot of time outdoors. Today, when not writing, Philip can be found managing in an outdoor retail store, hiking local trails, doing school visits as an author and performing with a Brazilian percussion group in Austin, Texas.

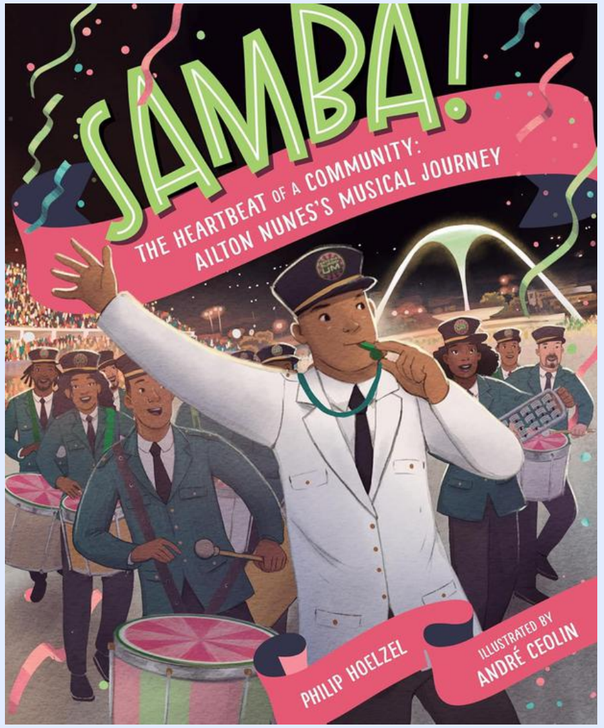
Published and forthcoming titles:

- *Planting Hope: A Portrait of Photographer Sebastião Salgado* (Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2024)
- *Samba! The Heartbeat of a Community: Ailton Nunes's Musical Journey* (Sleeping Bear Press, 2024)

Think of Philip for: children's, biography, Brazil, baseball, nature/outdoors.

Representation: Miranda Paul | mpaul@aevitascreative.com





NASEEM JAMNIA

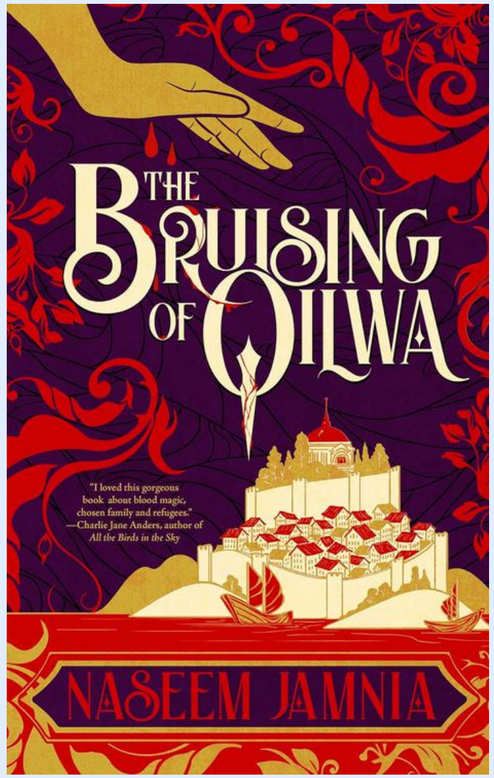
Naseem Jamnia (they/them) is the author of the fantasy novella *The Bruising of Qilwa* (Tachyon, 2022) and the middle grade novel *The Glade* (Aladdin, 2025). They're the winner of the 2023 Judith A. Markowitz Award for Best New LGBTQ Writer, and a finalist for the 2023 Astounding Award for Best New SFF Writer, the 2023 World Fantasy Award for Best Novella, the 2023 Crawford Award, and the 2023 Locus Award for Best First Novel. Their work has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Bitch Media*, *Cosmopolitan*, *The Rumpus*, and other venues. In addition to being named the inaugural Samuel R. Delany Fellow, they've received fellowships from Lambda Literary and Otherwise. A Persian-Chicagoan and former neuroscientist, Naseem is the managing editor at Sword & Kettle Press and lives in Reno, NV with their geologist husband and four furred creatures.

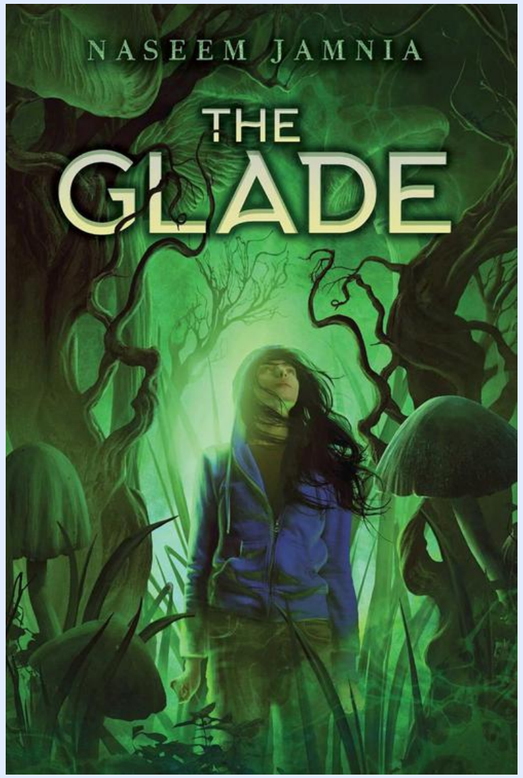
Published titles:

- *The Glade* (Aladdin, 2025)
- *The Bruising of Qilwa* (adult fiction, Tachyon Publications, 2022)

Think of Naseem for: middle grade and young adult speculative fiction that challenges Western storytelling conventions; centers queer and trans characters of color (particularly nonbinary or Iranian protagonists); engages in Persian and Muslim mythologies, cultures, and/or characters; includes science-minded and/or neurodivergent characters; are set in Chicago; would center heavily around food; and/or some combination that shows Naseem's strengths of worldbuilding, careful attention to prose, characters with intersectional identities, and dedication to inclusive storytelling in speculative fiction.

Representation: Erica Bauman | ebauman@aevitascreative.com





DIANE WRIGHT LANDOLF

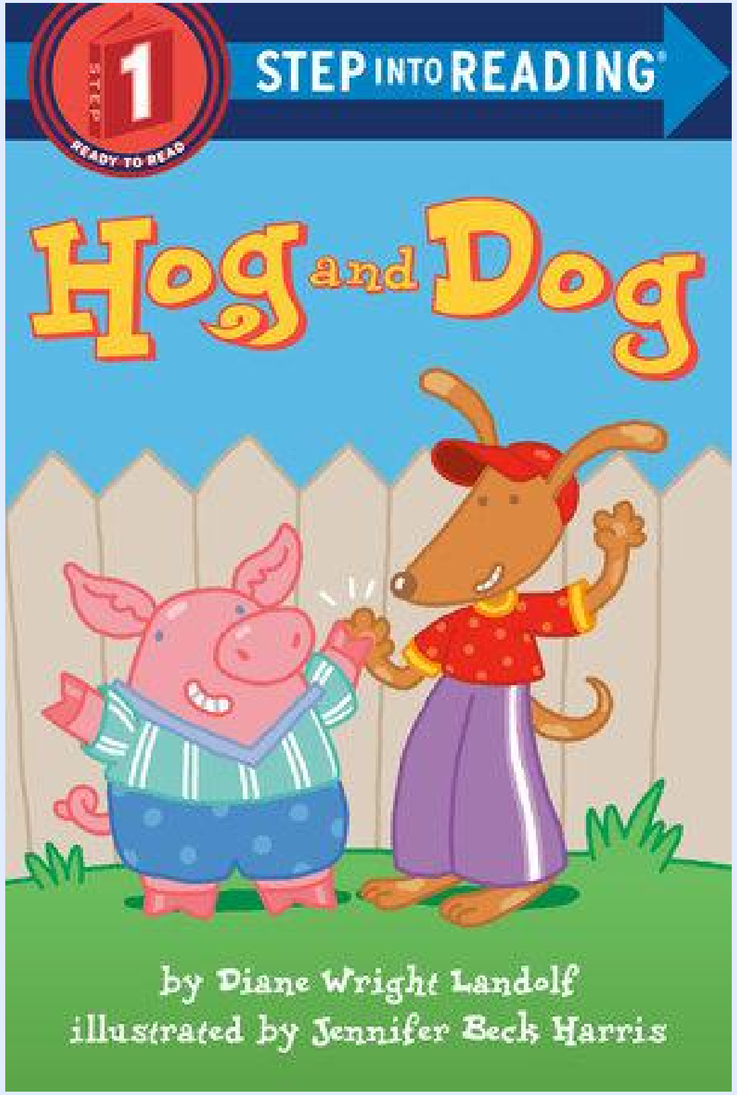
Diane Wright Landolf is a freelance editor and former senior editor at Random House Children's Books, where she focused on chapter books and middle-grade novels. Her collection of middle-grade scary stories is upcoming from Clarion in Summer 2026. She's published a picture book, an original early reader, and a chapter book adaptation of *The Jungle Book*, as well as several readers and 8x8s for licenses including Barbie and Thomas and Friends. Diane loves travel and hiking and frequently both at the same time. She is the mother of two—one grown and one almost grown—and lives with her husband and daughter in Brooklyn, NY. Find out more at dianelandolfeditorial.com.

Published titles:

- *What a Good Big Brother!* (Random House, 2009)
- *The Jungle Book* (Stepping Stones Classic chapter book adaptation, Random House, 2008)
- *Hog and Dog* (Step into Reading, Step 1, Random House, 2005)

Think of Diane for: middle-grade: humor, horror/ghost stories, and adventure; chapter books; early readers.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette | ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com



ERIKA LEWIS

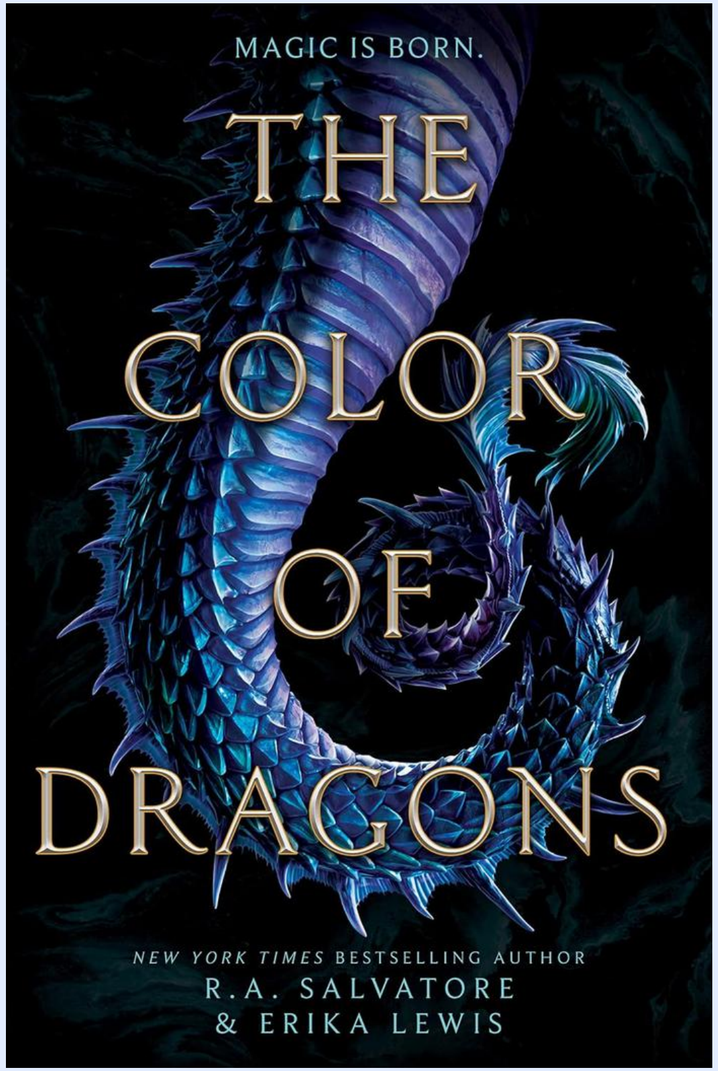
Erika Lewis is an award-winning author of novels and graphic novels for children and young adults. Her Webtoon series, *Firebrand* has had over 5 million readers, and her newest middle grade series, *Kelcie Murphy and the Academy for the Unbreakable Arts* from Macmillan/Starscape was a Children's Book Council Teacher's Favorite Pick and a Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books for 2024-2025.

Published titles:

- *The Color of Dragons,* co-authored with R. A. Salvatore (Harper, 2021)
- *Academy of the Unbreakable Arts* series (Tor, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Think of Erika for: action-packed, fantastical fiction with exciting world-building, Greek, Roman, Norse, and Celtic mythology, historical fiction and nonfiction, horror, holiday stories, and animal stories,

Representation: Tricia Lawrence | tlawrence@aevitascreative.com



LYDIA LUKIDIS

Lydia Lukidis is an award-winning author of 60+ trade and educational books for children. Her titles include *Up, Up, High: The Secret Poetry of Earth's Atmosphere* (Capstone, 2025), *Dancing Through Space: Dr. Mae Jemison Soars to New Heights* (Albert Whitman, 2024), and *Deep, Deep, Down: The Secret Underwater Poetry of the Mariana Trench* (Capstone, 2023) which was a Crystal Kite winner for the Canada and North America division, Forest of Reading Silver Birch Express Honor, a Cybils Award nominee, and winner of the Dogwood Readers Award. A science enthusiast from a young age, Lydia now incorporates her studies in science and her everlasting curiosity into her books.

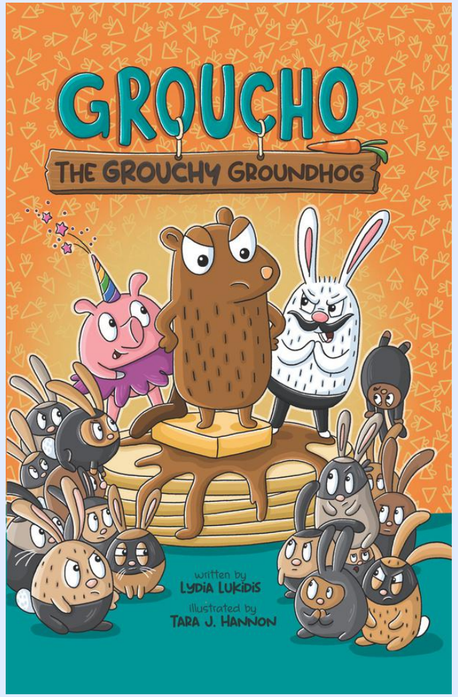
Lydia is very involved in the kidlit community. She volunteers as a judge on Rate your Story, co-hosts the annual Fall Writing Frenzy competition, and is an active member of SCBWI, CANSCAIP, 12 x 12, and The Authors Guild. Another passion of hers is fostering a love for children's literacy through the writing workshops she regularly offers in elementary schools across Quebec with the Culture in the Schools program. She also enjoys writing humor and integrating social emotional learning (SEL) into her stories

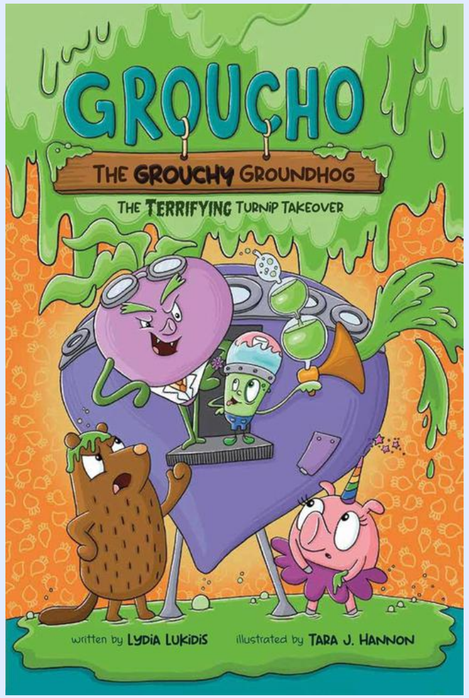
Published titles:

- *Groucho the Grouchy Groundhog* series (Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2025 & 2026)
- *Up, Up High: The Secret Poetry of Earth's Atmosphere* (Capstone Editions, 2025)
- *Dancing Through Space: Dr. Mae Jemison Soars to New Heights* (Albert Whitman & Company, 2024)
- *Deep, Deep, Down: The Secret, Underwater Poetry of the Mariana Trench* (Capstone Editions, 2023)

Think of Lydia for: nature, science, STEM, nonfiction, humor, SEL, picture books, early readers, chapter books, graphic novels, MG and YA novels in verse.

Representation: Miranda Paul | mpaul@aevitascreative.com





MÉLINA MANGAL

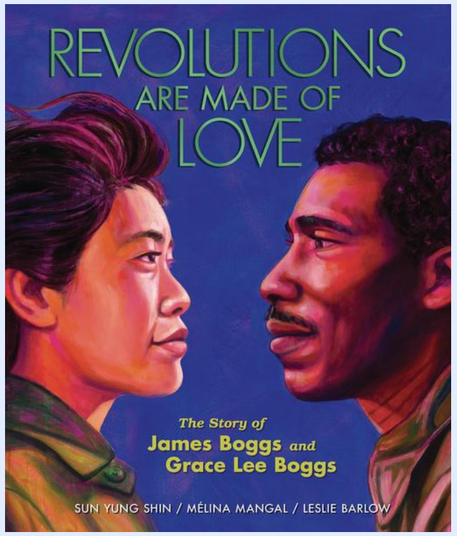
Mélina Mangal writes picture books, biographies, and short stories that focus on connections with nature and culture. Titles include *The Vast Wonder of the World: Biologist Ernest Everett Just,* winner of the Carter G. Woodson Award, *Jayden's Impossible Garden*, named One of the Best Children's Books of the Year by Bank Street Center for Children's Literature, and the sequel, *Jayden's Secret Ingredient*.

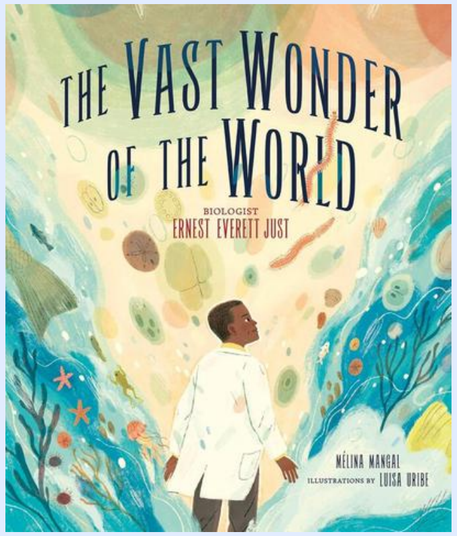
Published titles:

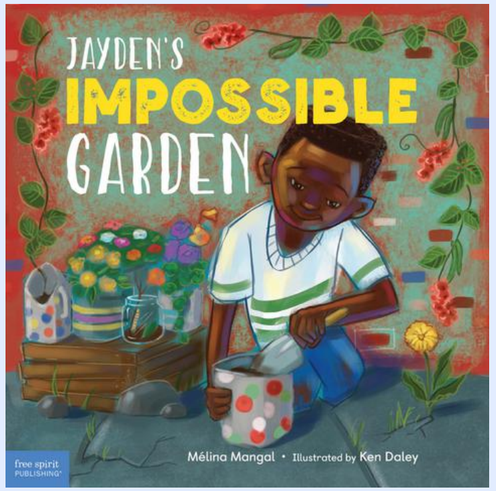
- *Revolutions Are Made of Love: The Story of James Boggs and Grace Lee Boggs,* with Sun Yung Shin, illustrated by Leslie Barlow (Carolrhoda Books, 2025)
- *Squirrels Scamper*, illustrated by Stella Lim (Free Spirit Publishing, 2025)
- *Trees Stand Tall,* illustrated by Stella Lim (Free Spirit Publishing, 2025)
- *Birds Sing Their Words,* illustrated by Stella Lim (Free Spirit Publishing, 2025)
- *Jayden's Secret Ingredient,* illustrated by Ken Daley (Free Spirit Publishing, 2023)
- *Jayden's Impossible Garden,* illustrated by Ken Daley (Free Spirit Publishing, 2021)
- *The Vast Wonder of the World: Biologist Ernest Everett Just* (Millbrook Press, 2018)

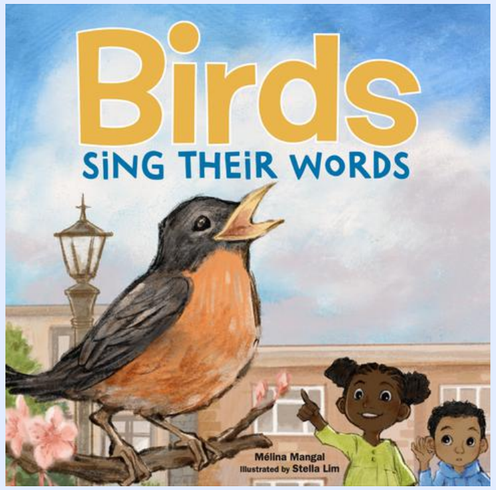
Think of Mélina for: poetry, African American culture and history, plants/gardening, children's nonfiction, picture books, nature, international and military families.

Representation: Miranda Paul | mpaul@aevitascreative.com









CLAUDIA GUADALUPE MARTINEZ

Claudia Guadalupe Martínez's debut novel, *The Smell of Old Lady Perfume*, received the Paterson Prize for Books for Young People, the Texas Institute of Letters Best Young Adult Book Award, and an Americas Award Commendation. Her sophomore novel *Pig Park* won the Texas Institute of Letters Best Young Adult Book and the NACCS Tejas Foco Young Adult Fiction Award. Her debut picture book, *Not A Bean*, illustrated by Laura González received multiple starred reviews and was named a Best Book of the Year by Bank Street College of Education. Her next picture book *Still Dreaming*, illustrated by Magdalena Mora, received a Pura Belpré Honor for Illustration. *Not A Monster*, illustrated by Laura Gonzalez, received a starred review from Kirkus and a Blueberry Honor Award. Claudia also authored The Movie Novel for Dream Works' animated film, *Spirit Untamed*. Her latest titles include Spanish editions of *Not a Bean* and *Not a Monster*, and the latest installment in Claudia's Not a series, titled, *Not a Dog*, published simultaneously in English and Spanish.

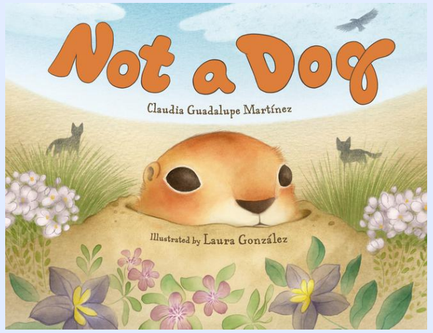
Claudia grew up in sunny El Paso, Texas, where she learned that letters form words from reading the subtitles of old westerns with her father. She now lives and writes in Chicago.

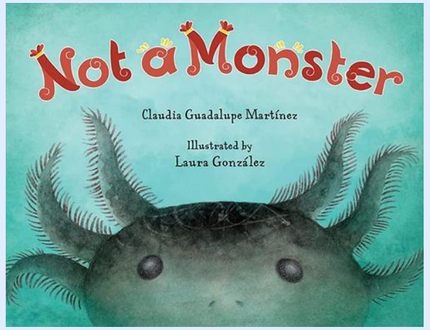
Published titles:

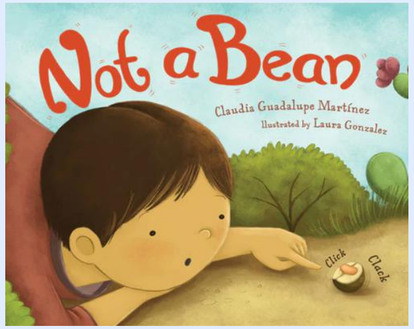
- *Not a Dog* (Charlesbridge, 2025)
- *Not a Monster* (Charlesbridge, 2023)
- *Still Dreaming* (Lee and Low, 2022)
- *Spirit Untamed* (Hachette, 2021)
- *Not A Bean* (Charlesbridge, 2019)
- ....and more!

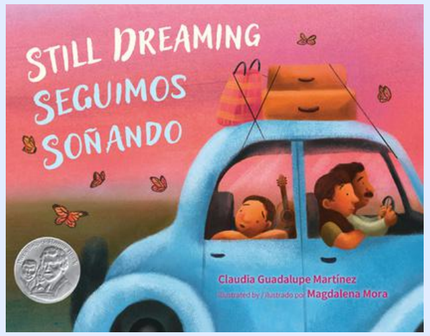
Think of Claudia for: picture book through young adult projects.

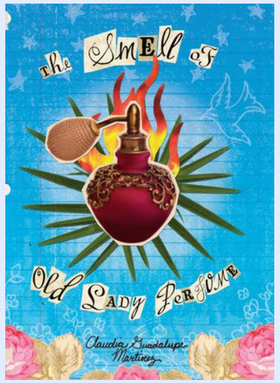
Representation: Adriana Domínguez | adominguez@aevitascreative.com

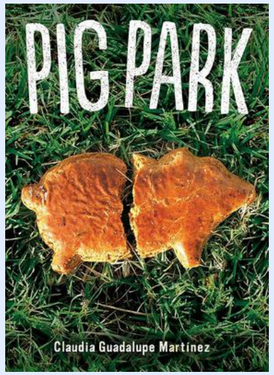


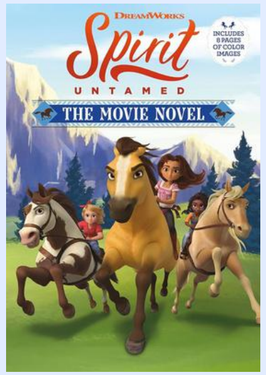












JODI MEADOWS

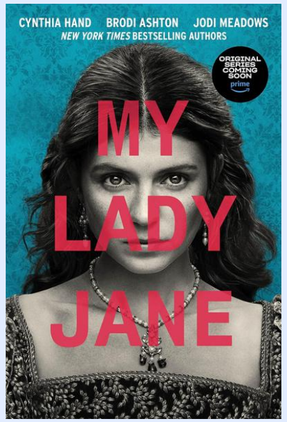
Jodi Meadows wants to be a ferret when she grows up and she has no self-control when it comes to yarn, ink, or outer space. Still, she manages to write books. She is the author of the *Incarnate* Trilogy, the *Orphan Queen* Duology, the *Fallen Isles* Trilogy (HarperCollins/Katherine Tegen), and the *Nightrender* Duology (Holiday House). She is also a coauthor of New York Times bestsellers *My Lady Jane* --now a streaming series on Amazon Prime--, *My Plain Jane*, and other books in the *Lady Janies* series (HarperTeen). She lives in rural Virginia. Visit her at www.jodimeadows.com

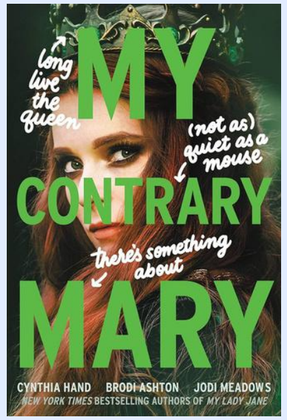
Published titles:

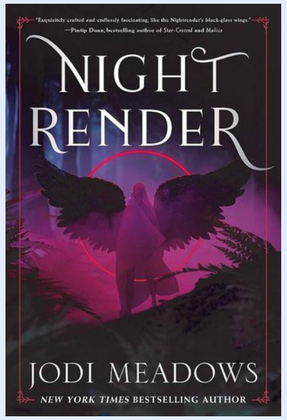
- *Confessions from the Group Chat* (Holiday House, 2025)
- *Bye Forever, I Guess* (Holiday House, 2024)
- *My Salty Mary* (HarperTeen, 2024)
- *Dawnbreaker* (Holiday House, 2023)
- *Nightrender* (Holiday House, 2022)
- *Before She Ignites* (Katherine Tegen Books, 2017)
- *My Lady Jane* (HarperTeen, 2016)
- *Orphan Queen* (Katherine Tegen Books, 2015)
- *Incarnate* (Katherine Tegen Books, 2012)
- ....and many more!

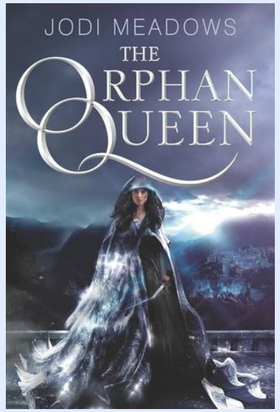
Think of Jodi for: middle grade, young adult, and romantasy projects.

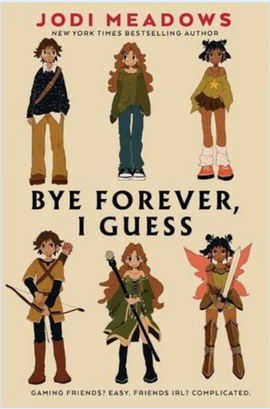
Representation: Lauren MacLeod | lmacleod@aevitascreative.com











ANNA MONDERS

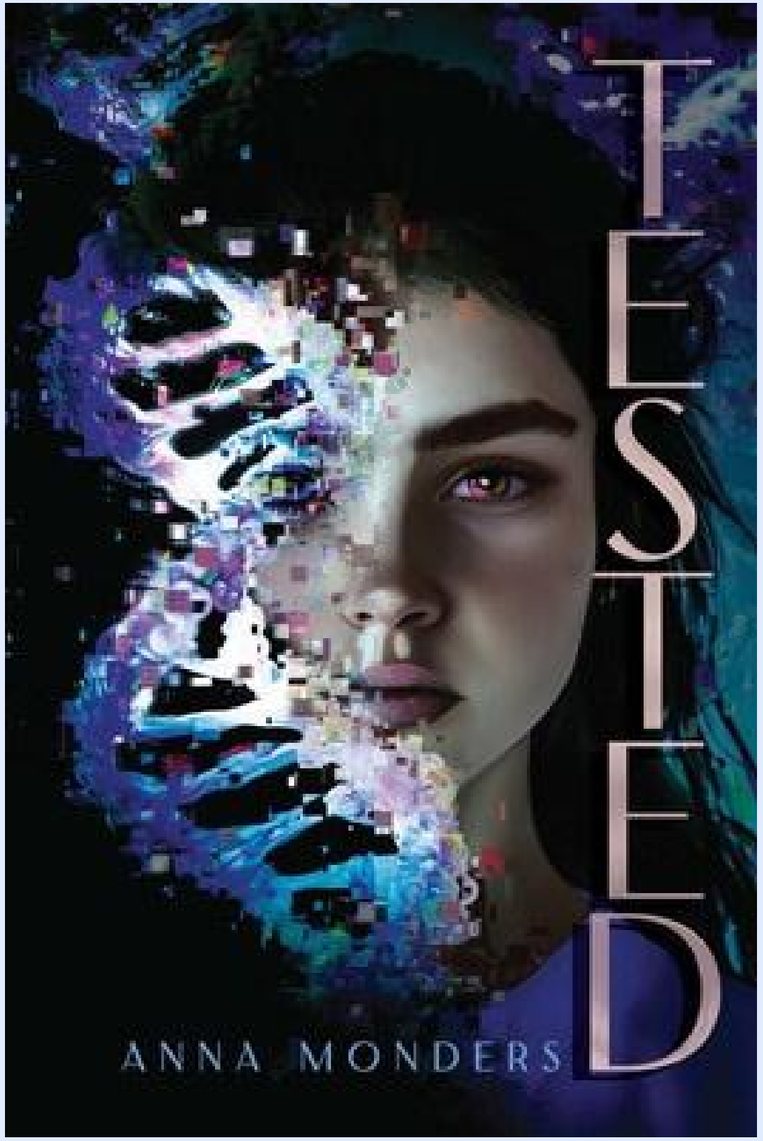
Anna Monders is an author and word lover with a science background. After studying geology in college, Anna served in the Peace Corps in Gabon, melted knockoff Mars rocks at MIT, and performed high-energy booktalks at schools across southern Oregon. She is the author of the middle-grade novel *Tested* (Aladdin, March 2026) and the humorous informational picture book *So You Want to be a Fossil?* (MIT Kids Press, 2027). She holds an MFA in writing for children from Simmons University and an MS in earth and planetary sciences from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Published and forthcoming titles:

- *So You Want to be a Fossil? (MIT Kids Press, 2027)*
- *Tested* (Aladdin, 2026)

Think of Anna for: STEM/science, sci-fi, family stories (including divorce and non-traditional or LGBTQ families).

Representation: Miranda Paul | mpaul@aevitascreative.com



MARIA INGRANDE MORA

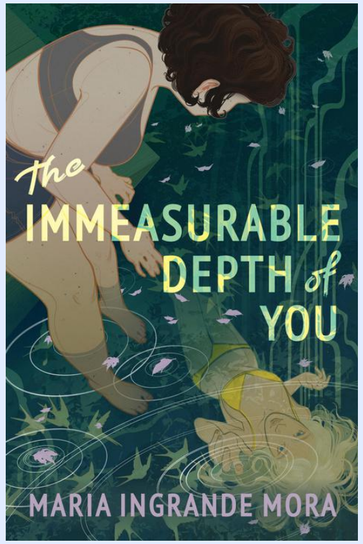
Maria Ingrande Mora (they/she) is the acclaimed author of *Fragile Remedy* (Flux, 2021) a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection which Kirkus described as “[a] boy-loves-boy dystopian fantasy for anyone needing a heartbreaking thrill.” They are also the author of *The Immeasurable Depth* of You (Peachtree Teen, 2023), which received starred reviews from Kirkus, Booklist, and School Library Journal. A queer single parent, Ingrande Mora lives in St. Petersburg with her two teenagers and three cats.

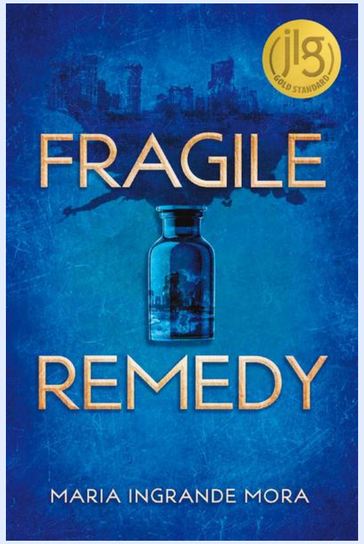
Published and forthcoming titles:

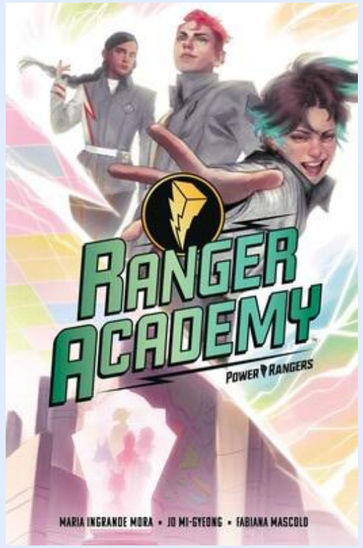
- *A Wild Radiance (forthcoming from Peachtree Teen)*
- *The Ranger Academy: Power Rangers series (Boom! Box, ongoing)*
- *The Immeasurable Depth of You (Peachtree Teen, 2023)*
- *Fragile Remedy (Flux, 2021)*

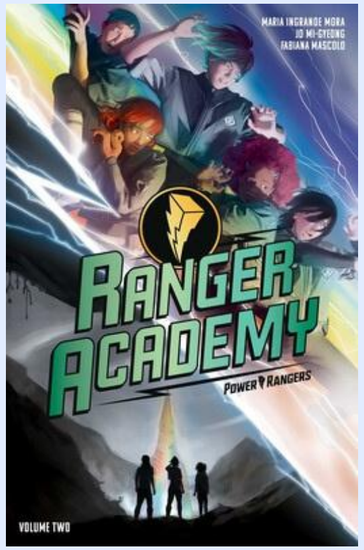
Think of Maria for: YA and middle grade fantasy, neurodivergent stories, chronic pain stories, nonbinary characters, and graphic novel/comic scripts.

Representation: Erica Bauman | ebauman@aevitascreative.com







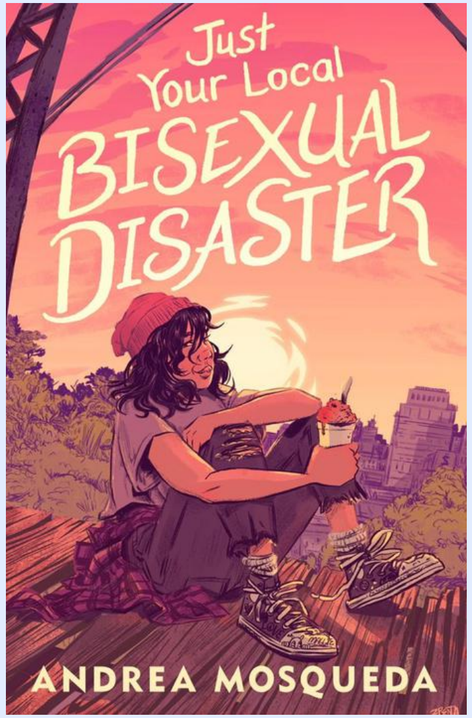


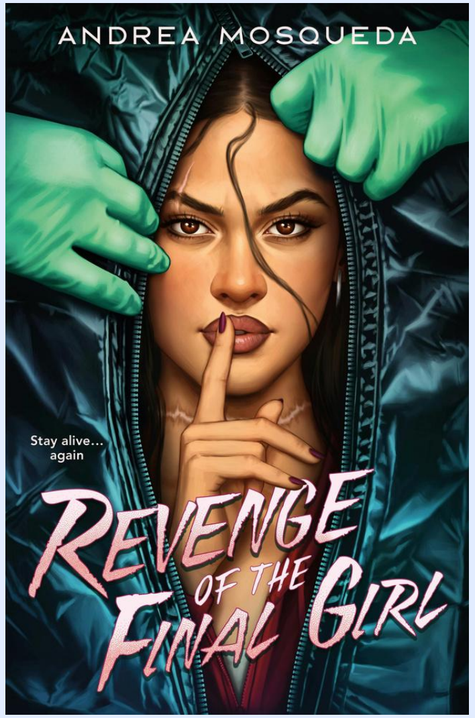
ANDREA MOSQUEDA

Andrea Mosqueda is a Chicana writer. She was born and raised in Texas's Rio Grande Valley. She currently lives in Brooklyn with her partner and works in the publishing industry as an assistant editor. When she's not writing or editing, she can be found doing her makeup, drinking too much coffee, and angsting over children's media. *Just Your Local Bisexual Disaster* is her first book.

Published and forthcoming titles:

- *Revenge of the Final Girls* (forthcoming, Feiwel & Friends)
- *Just Your Local Bisexual Disaster* (Feiwel & Friends, 2022)





Think of Andrea for: readers from pre-school to young adult, contemporary Latinx stories, and YA romance.

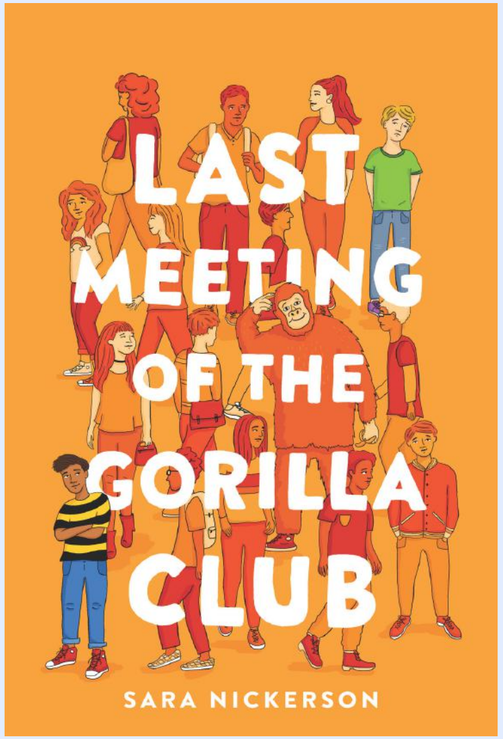
Representation: Lauren MacLeod | lmacleod@aevitascreative.com

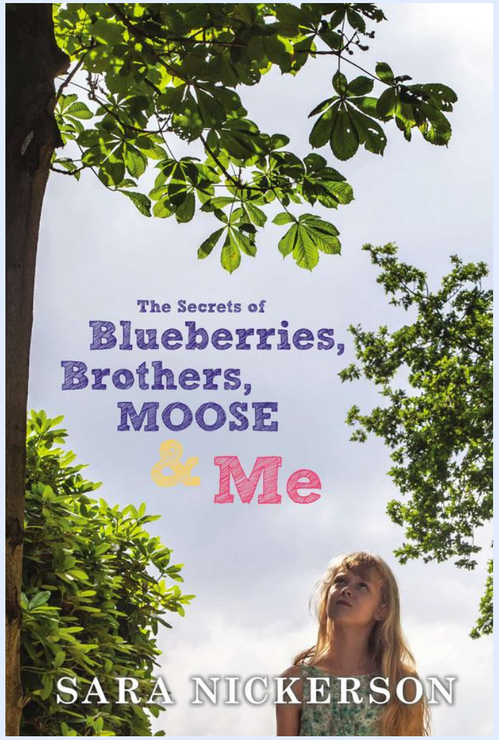
SARA NICKERSON

Sara Nickerson is an award-winning author whose career began in television and film. Her debut novel, *How to Disappear Completely and Never Be Found*, originated as a screenplay she adapted for middle grade readers. She went on to publish *The Secrets of Blueberries*, *Brothers*, *Moose & Me*, which earned a BCCB Blue Ribbon Award and was praised by *The New York Times* as a “classic summer adventure.” Her third middle grade novel, *Last Meeting of the Gorilla Club*, was a Washington State Book Award finalist.

Published and forthcoming titles:

- *Last Meeting of the Gorilla Club* (Dutton Children’s Books)
- *The Secrets of Blueberries*, *Brothers*, *Moose & Me* (Dutton Children’s Books)





Think of Sara for: for humor, adventure, nature, mystery, and other middle grade projects.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette | ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com

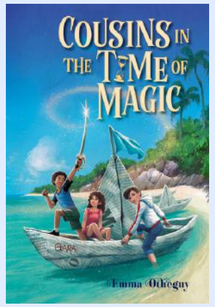
EMMA OTHEGUY

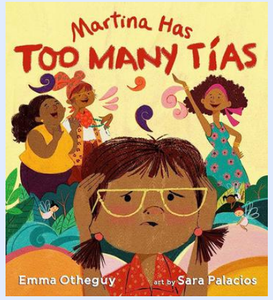
Emma Otheguy is the creator of HarperCollins' award winning *Reina Ramos* (I Can Read) early reader series, and the author of the picture books *Martí's Song for Freedom/ Martí y sus versos por la libertad*, illustrated by Beatriz Vidal, which received five starred reviews, was named a Best Book of the Year by Kirkus Reviews, *School Library Journal*, and the New York Public Library, and was the recipient of the International Literacy Association's Children's and Young Adult Book Award in Intermediate Nonfiction, *A Sled for Gabo*, illustrated by Ana Ramirez Gonzalez, which was an NCTE Charlotte Huck Recommended Book and a Best Book of the Year by the Chicago and New York Public Libraries and Parents Latina magazine, and *Martina Has Too Many Tías*, illustrated by Pura Belpré Honor illustrator Sara Palacios, a Junior Library Guild Gold Selection. Emma's middle-grade novels include *Silver Meadows Summer* and *Sofía Acosta Makes a Scene*, which received the International Latino Book Award Silver Medal for Best Youth Latino Focused Chapter Book. Emma co-authored *The Madre de Aguas of Cuba: Unicorn Rescue Society* middle grade fantasy with Newbery Honor-winner Adam Gidwitz, and wrote the Carmen Sandiego novel *Secrets of the Silver Lion*. Her latest book is the historical time-travel adventure *Cousins in the Time of Magic*. In a glowing full-page review, *The New York Times* wrote: "Otheguy's novel is deeply original, action-packed and brimming with historical richness and wit. It is particularly satisfying to see how her characters change and grow on their journey, ultimately gaining a better understanding of their culture and its influence on the United States at large."

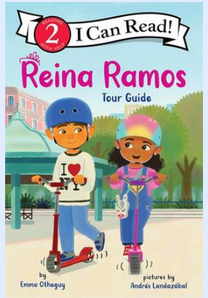
For information on Emma's published and forthcoming titles, please visit her ACMKI author page.

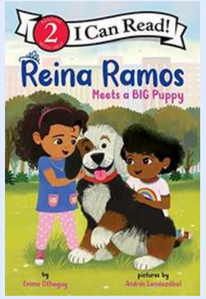
Think of Emma for: picture books through middle grade projects.

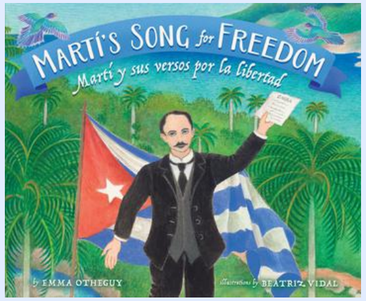
Representation: Adriana Domínguez | adominguez@aevitascreative.com

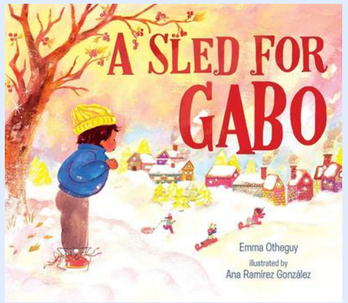


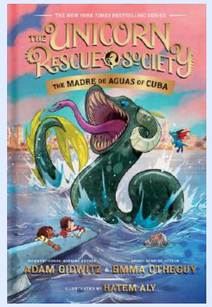












ANDREA PAGE

Andrea M. Page (Hunkpapa Lakota) writes middle grade, picture books, and educator guides for children's books by Native authors. She is the author of *Sioux Code Talkers of World War II*, which won a 2019 Independent Publisher Book Award (IPPY) Gold Medal. She serves as a board member for the Children's Literature Assembly (CLA) of the National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE), where she serves as one of the vice-chairs of CLA's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee. In addition, Andrea is an instructor at the Highlights Foundation, where she mentors other children's writers.

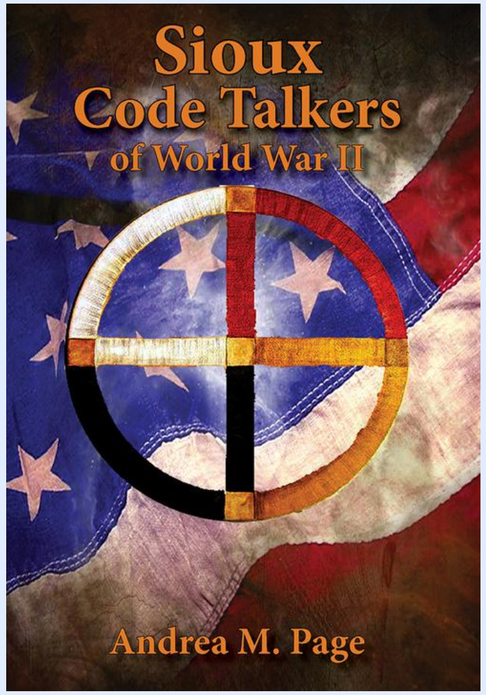
Her latest project is a contribution to the bestselling "Who Was…?" series titled *Who Was Wilma Mankiller?*. Forthcoming books include a picture book titled *Gabriel's Winter Count*. Andrea is a long-time member of the Rochester Area Children's Writers and Illustrators (RACWI) group and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI).

Published and forthcoming titles:

- *Gabriel's Winter Count* (forthcoming, Charlesbridge)
- *Who Was Wilma Mankiller?* (Penguin Workshop, 2025)
- *Sioux Code Talkers of World War II* (Pelican Publishing, 2017)

Think of Andrea for: middle grade projects.

Representation: Adriana Domínguez | adominguez@aevitascreative.com



ELIZABETH PAGEL-HOGAN

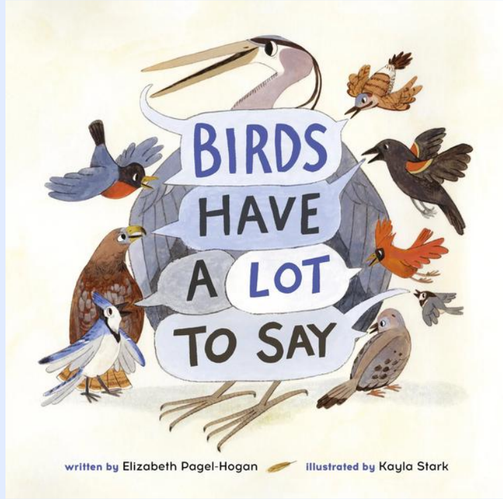
Elizabeth Pagel-Hogan loves exploring history and science. She's written a dozen fiction and nonfiction books and graphic novels. She has been a science educator on stage and a historical re-enactor at museums. She loves board games, birding, and baking. She's a lifelong runner, avid community scientist, and can usually deliver the punchline. When Elizabeth isn't writing, she's out birding. Her spark bird is a red-tailed hawk. She completed the Master Birder program with the Audubon Society of Western PA. Elizabeth lives with her family and pet schnoodle in Pittsburgh, PA.

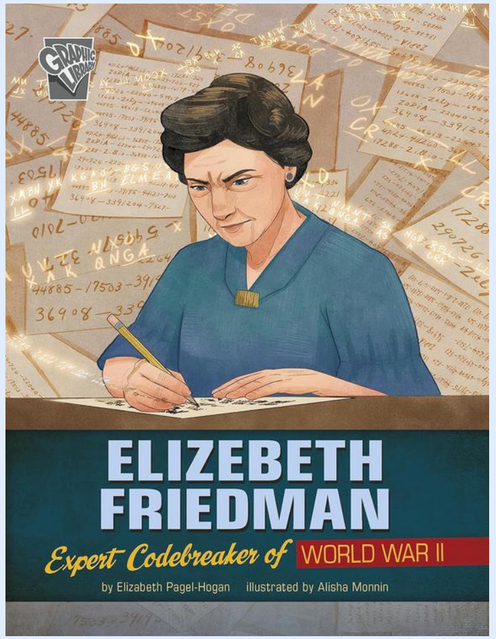
Published titles:

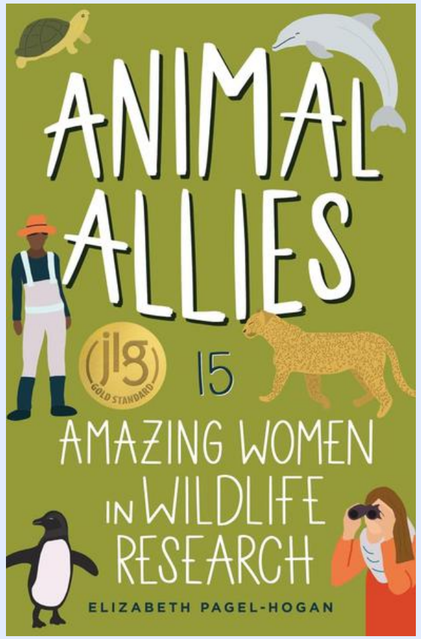
- *Birds Have a Lot to Say* (KiwiCo, 2023)
- *Elizebeth Friedman: Expert Codebreaker of WWII* (Capstone, 2023)
- *Animal Allies: 15 Innovative Women Researchers* (Chicago Review Press, 2022)
- *The Science and Technology of Leonardo da Vinci* (Nomad Press, 2021)
- *Max Axiom and the Ocean Plastic Problem* (Capstone, 2021)
- *Mermaid Midfielder* (Picture Window Books, 2021)

Think of Elizabeth for: sports, birding, children's, graphic novels, social justice, women's empowerment, STEM/nature.

Representation: Miranda Paul | mpaul@aevitascreative.com







JENNIFER ANN RICHTER

Jennifer's endless curiosity has led to careers in the U.S. Foreign Service, teaching, finance, editing, audio description for television, and copywriting. Throughout all the changes in locales and jobs, writing was one constant. The other was her husband, whom she met in Germany while on her first tour as a foreign service officer.

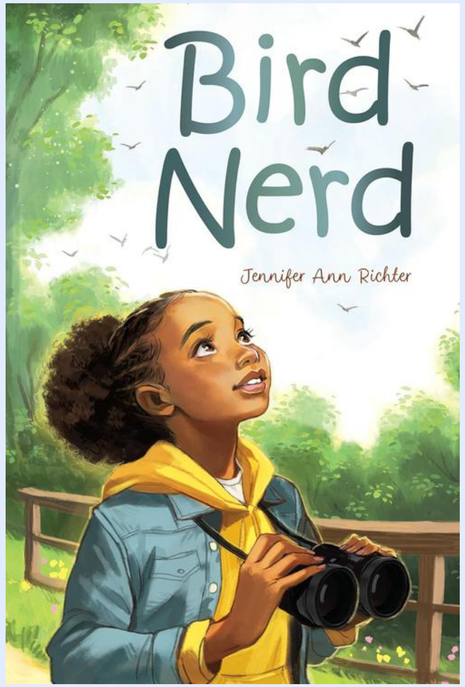
Jennifer's poetry, short stories, and novels draw heavily from her many interests and hobbies, with a particular focus on birding and astronomy. She is passionate about expanding young people's horizons and imaginations as well as promoting racial harmony over division.

Published titles:

- *Bird Nerd* (Holiday House, 2024)
- *The Star of Moon Village* (Holiday House, 2026)

Think of Jennifer for: chapter books to early middle grade, stories in rhyme, and lyrical nonfiction.

Representation: Amy Thrall Flynn | aflynn@aevitascreative.com

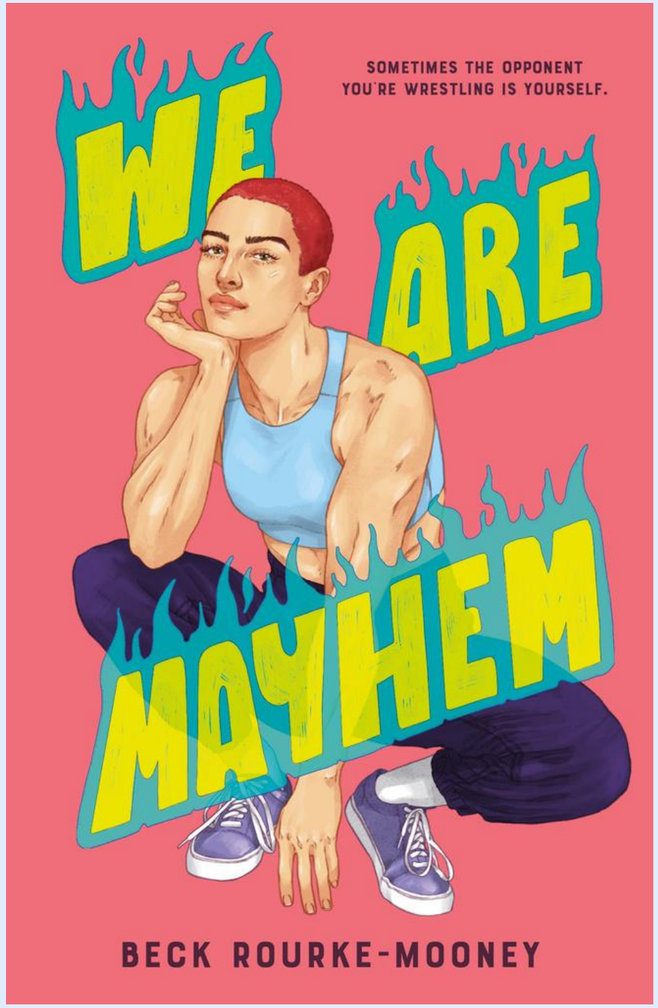


BECK ROURKE-MOONEY

Beck Rourke-Mooney grew up outside Providence and has worked as clambake staff, a donut finisher, a ballot counting machine tester, a telemarketer, and most importantly, a middle school English teacher. When not writing contemporary YA novels, they procrasti-bake, write songs, and watch (depending on who you ask) either way too much or just enough television, including, of course, wrestling. She lives in upstate New York.

Published titles:

- *We Are Mayhem* (Feiwel & Friends, 2024)



Think of Beck for: contemporary young adult projects and nonbinary protagonists.

Representation: Lauren MacLeod | lmacleod@aevitascreative.com

KATHERYN RUSSELL-BROWN

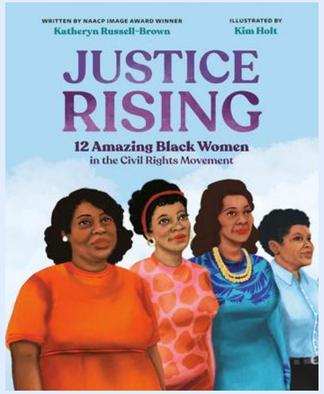
Katheryn Russell-Brown is an award-winning children's book author and Professor of Law. She is the author of the picture book biographies *Little Melba and Her Big Trombone*, illustrated by Frank Morrison, which received the Coretta Scott King Honor for Illustration, the Eureka! Honor Award, and was named a Best Book of the Year by Kirkus Reviews, School Library Journal, and the Center for the Study of Multicultural Children's Literature; *A Voice Named Aretha*, illustrated by Laura Freeman, which was named a Best Book of the Year by The Brown Bookshelf; and *She Was the First! The Trailblazing Life of Shirley Chisholm*, illustrated by Eric Velasquez, which won the 2021 NAACP Image Award and was named a Best Book of the Year by Kirkus Reviews and The Chicago Public Library, and included in the Rise: A Feminist Book Project List. Katheryn was born in New York City and grew up in Oakland, California.

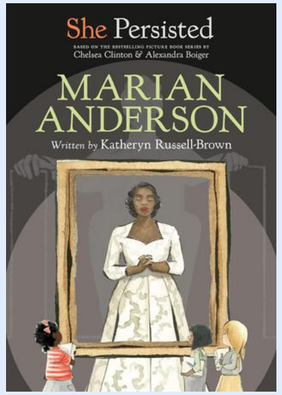
Published titles:

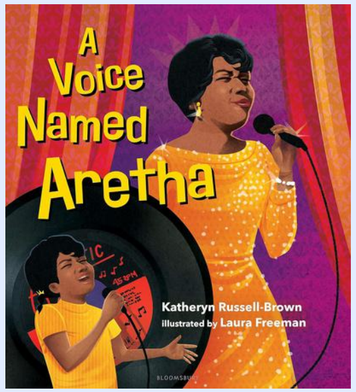
- *Justice Rising: 12 Amazing Black Women in the Civil Rights Movement* (Viking BFYR, 2023)
- *She Persisted: Marian Anderson* (Philomel, 2021)
- *She Was the First! The Trailblazing Life of Shirley Chisholm* (Lee & Low, 2020)
- *A Voice Named Aretha* (Bloomsbury, 2020)
- *Little Melba and Her Big Trombone* (Lee & Low, 2014)

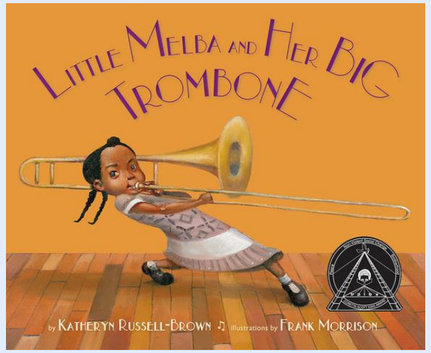
Think of Katheryn for: nonfiction picture books and early readers.

Representation: Adriana Domínguez | adominguez@aevitascreative.com









DAVAUN SANDERS

DaVaun Sanders (he/him) is a Black writer of speculative fiction residing in Phoenix, Arizona. He serves as Executive Editor for *FIYAH Literary Magazine of Black Speculative Fiction*, winner of the World Fantasy, British Fantasy and Hugo Awards. His editorial work includes the Breathe FIYAH flash fiction anthology, in collaboration with Tor.com.

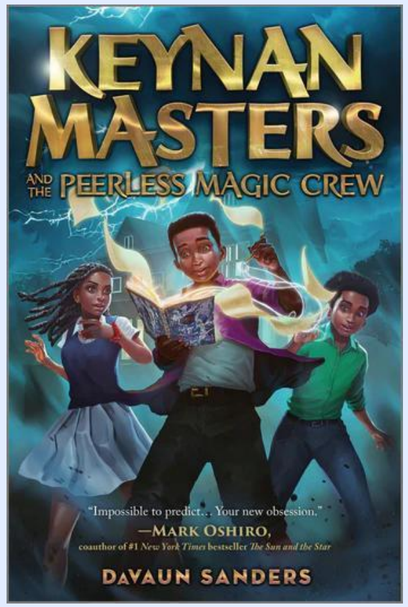
His short fiction has appeared in *FIYAH, PodCastle*, Broken Eye Books, Dancing Star Press, the *New York Times* bestselling anthology, *Black Boy Joy*, and elsewhere. He continues to expand his work in children's SFF, for his own twins and kids everywhere who deserve to enjoy inclusive stories. When deadlines are scarce he enjoys exploring the world with his wife and twins, cheering himself hoarse for the 49ers, and any DIY project that requires outrageous new power tools.

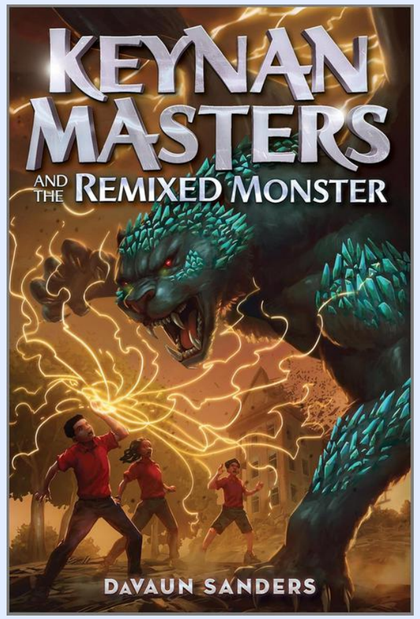
Published titles:

- *What If… The Multiverse Was Doomed?: An Avengers of the Multiverse Story* (Penguin Random House, 2026)
- *Keynan Masters and The Remixed Monster* (HarperCollins, 2025)
- *Minecraft: The Tournament, An Official Minecraft Novel* (Random House World, 2024)
- *Keynan Masters & The Peerless Magic Crew* (Inkyard Press, 2023)

Think of DaVaun for: chapter books, middle grade, young adult, adventure, Black-boy joy, twin stories, and complex world-building.

Representation: Mary C. Moore | mmoore@aevitascreative.com





KELLY RICE SCHMITT

Kelly Rice Schmitt writes STEAM books to spark curiosity, courage, and joy in readers and trusts the remarkable ability of the growing child mind. After beginning her career in the competitive, male-dominated world of energy trading, she felt compelled to advocate for girls in STEM, business, and other fields with gender gaps.

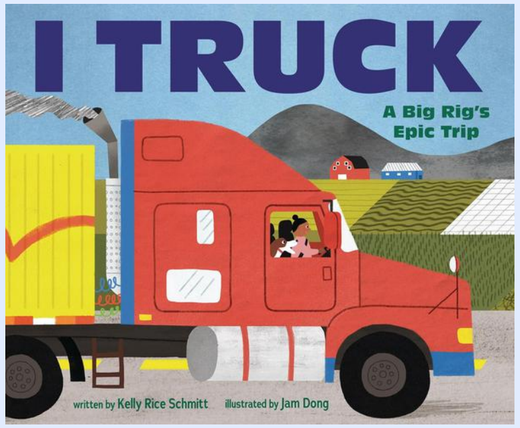
She holds a B.B.A in Finance and Chinese from the University of Notre Dame. Kelly has lived in many places across the United States and even in China—but now she and her family call North Carolina home.

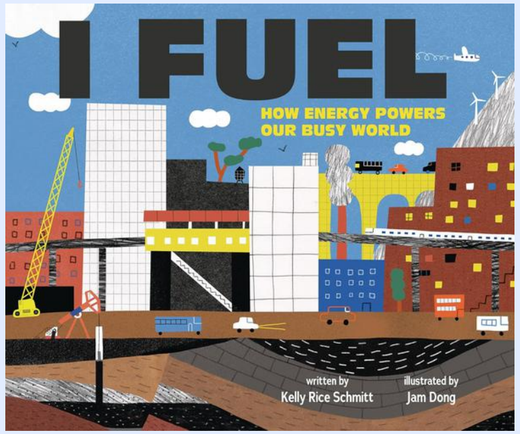
Published and forthcoming titles:

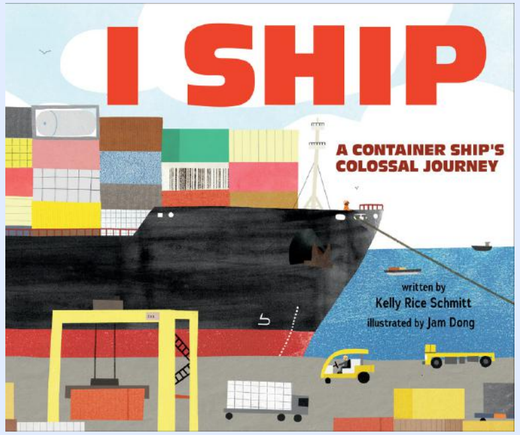
- *The Farm Next Door* (Knopf, 2026)
- *I Truck* (Millbrook Press, 2025)
- *I Fuel* (Millbrook Press, 2024)
- *I Ship* (Millbrook Press, 2023)

Think of Kelly for: children's nonfiction, Americana, industry/transportation/construction, STEM, financial literacy, biracial families, bilingualism, musical theater, board games, and global perspectives.

Representation: Miranda Paul | mpaul@aevitascreative.com







JASMINE SKYE

Jasmine Skye is a queer-romantic, grey-ace, bigender fantasy author who earned an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Southern Maine's Stonecoast Program. S/he especially loves to create magical worlds where LGBTQIA+ heroes persevere through hardships to claim their own happy endings.

Jasmine has a small menagerie of pets and a collection of hobbies including cosplay and figure skating. When s/he's not writing, Jasmine does STEM outreach work with high schoolers across Texas.

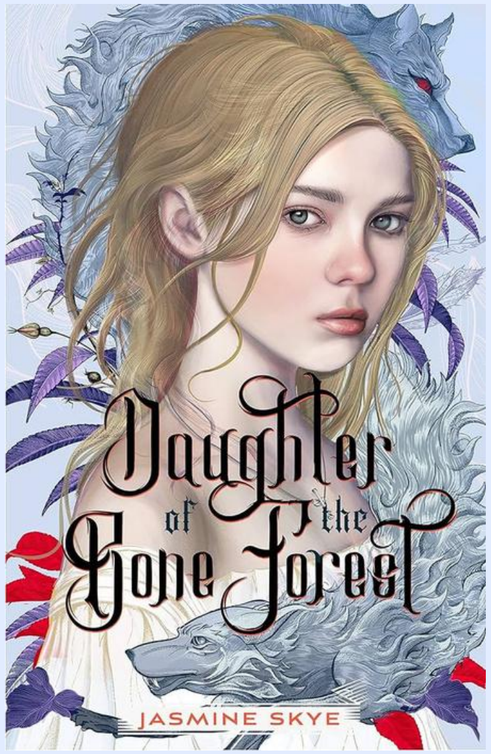
Daughter of the Bone Forest is Jasmine's debut novel.

Published and forthcoming titles:

- *Daughter of the Cursed Kingdom* (Feiwel and Friends, 2026)
- *Daughter of the Bone Forest* (Feiwel and Friends, 2024)

Think of Jasmine for: young adult projects.

Representation: Mary C. Moore | mmoore@aevitascreative.com



DASHKA SLATER

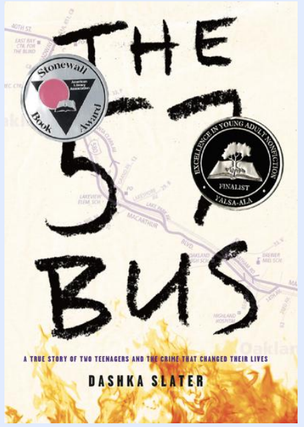
New York Times-bestselling author Dashka Slater has been described as a “triple threat” for her success in journalism, adult fiction, and children’s literature. The author of many books of fiction and nonfiction for children, teenagers, and adults, her work has been translated into more than fifteen languages and has won numerous awards, including the 2024 YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Award gold medal for *Accountable* (which was also the first ever young adult title to receive the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize from the Columbia Journalism School and Harvard’s Neiman Foundation for Journalism), the 2023 Kurt Vonnegut Speculative Fiction Award for her short story, “The Jeanines of Summer,” and the 2018 Wanda Gág Read Aloud Award for her picture book, *Escargot*. Her *New York Times* best-selling young-adult true crime narrative, *The 57 Bus*, has received numerous accolades, including the Stonewall Book Award, and was named to *Time Magazine’s* list of the 100 Best Young Adult Books of All Time.

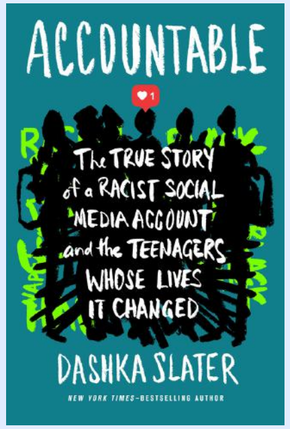
Published titles:

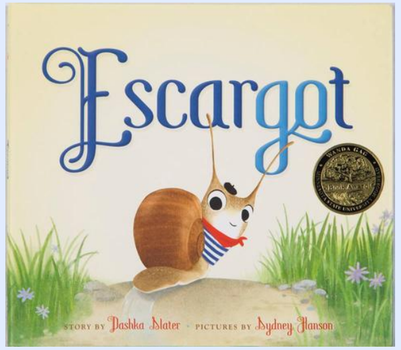
- *Accountable* (FSG, 2023)
- *The Book of Fatal Errors: The Feylawn Chronicles*, book 1 (FSG, 2020)
- *The 57 Bus* (FSG, 2017)
- *Escargot* (FSG, 2017)
- *The Antlered Ship* (Beach Lane, 2017)

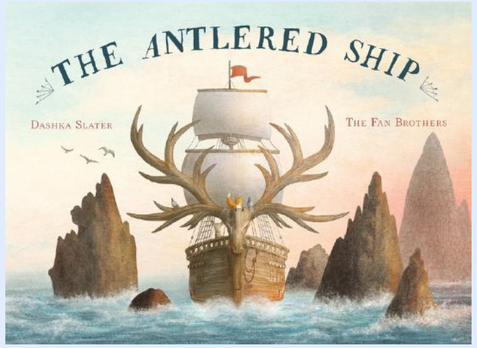
Think of Dashka for: picture book, MG, YA, fiction, nonfiction, criminal justice/law/politics, science/nature/environment, fantasy, history, biography, reported/journalistic, character-driven.

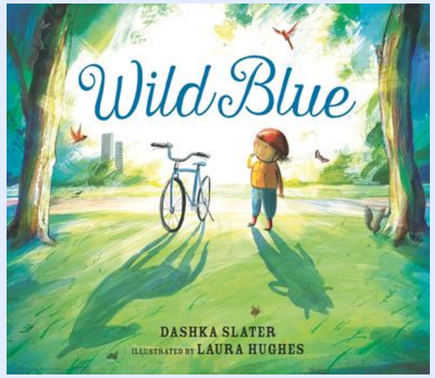
Representation: Erin Murphy | emurphy@aevitascreative.com

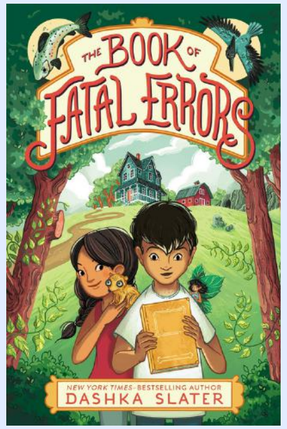


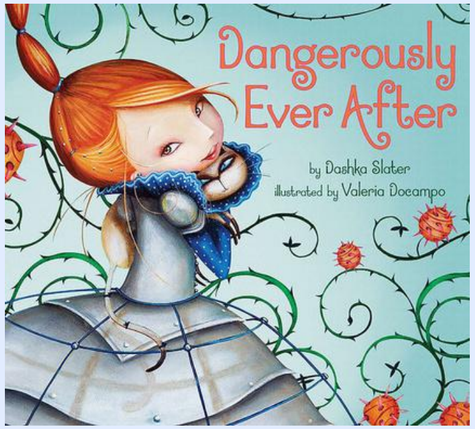












TAMARA ELLIS SMITH

Tamara Ellis Smith is a children's book author who writes middle grade fiction and picture books. Her middle grades novel *Another Kind of Hurricane* was a Vermont Book Award finalist, and her picture books *Here and There and Grief is an Elephant* are used in classrooms and libraries as resources for kids dealing with tough life issues. She has written many short nonfiction pieces for *Reading Plus*. Her newest book, *Bubble Town*, is an interactive chapter book from Choose Your Own Adventure.

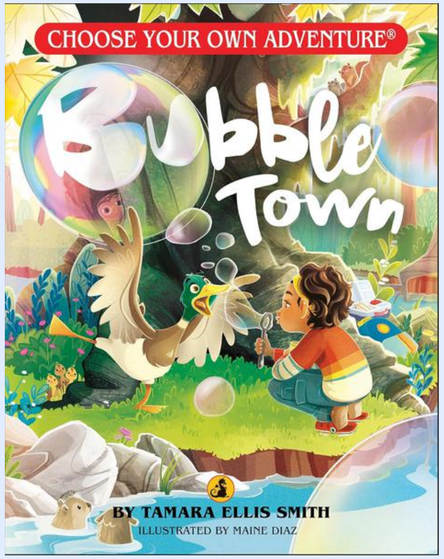
Tam is a graduate of New York University's Playwriting MFA program, as well as Vermont College of Fine Arts' Writing for Children and Young Adults program. She lives in Richmond, Vermont with her family and loves to run on the river trail with her dog, as well as bake (and eat) anything that combines chocolate and peanut butter.

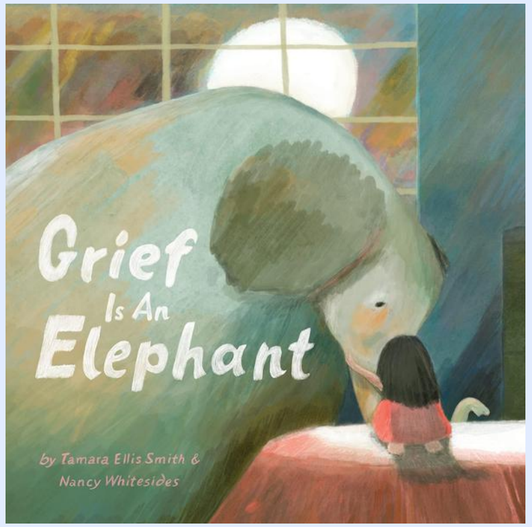
Published and forthcoming titles:

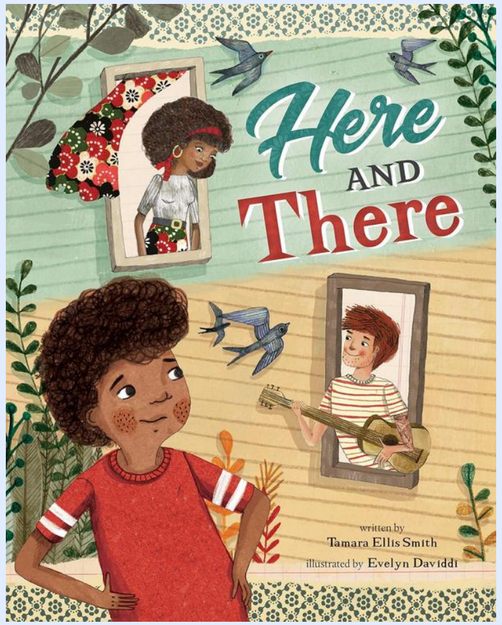
- *Bubble Town* (forthcoming from Choose Your Own Adventure Jr.)
- *Grief Is an Elephant* (Chronicle Books, 2023)
- *Here and There* (Barefoot Books, 2019)
- *Another Kind of Hurricane* (Schwartz & Wade, 2015)

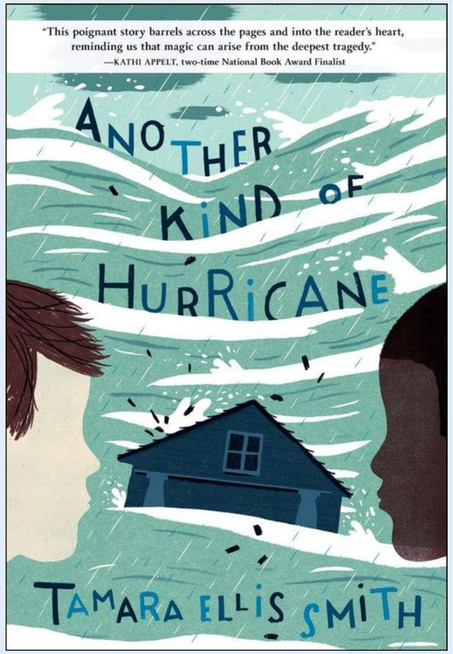
Think of Tamara for: picture books, chapter books, MG, fiction, nonfiction, SEL fiction, issue-centered fiction (divorce, grief), lyrical fiction, educational nonfiction, interactive fiction.

Representation: Erin Murphy | emurphy@aevitascreative.com









ANNA STANISZEWSKI

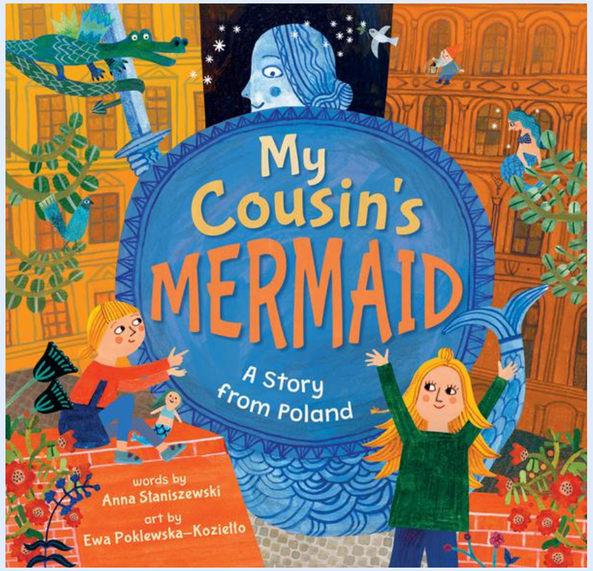
Born in Poland and raised in the United States, Anna Staniszewski grew up loving stories in both Polish and English. She was a Writer-in-Residence at the Boston Public Library and a winner of the Susan P. Bloom Discovery Award, and she currently teaches courses on writing and children's literature in the Boston area. Anna is the author of over thirty books for young readers, including the novels *Double Clique* and *The Wonder of Wildflowers*; the picture books *Dogosaurus Rex* and *My Cousin's Mermaid*; and the *Once Upon a Fairy Tale* chapter book series.

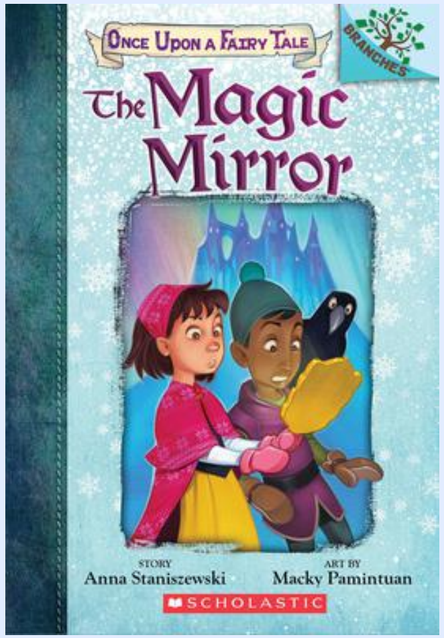
Published and forthcoming titles:

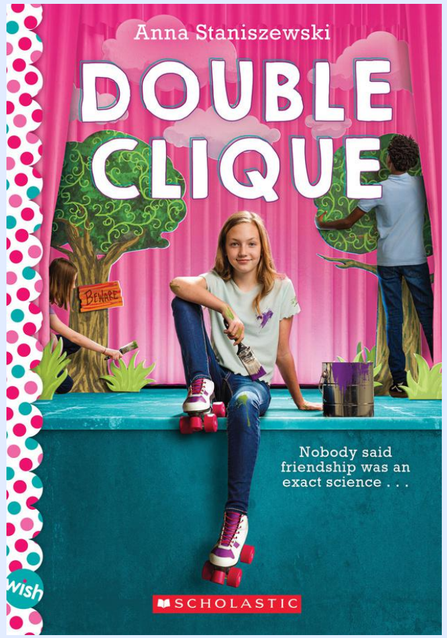
- *The Night Fox* (forthcoming from Top Shelf Comics)
- *The Once Upon a Fairy Tale series* (Scholastic)
- My Cousin's Mermaid (Barefoot Books, 2023)
- *The Wonder of Wildflowers* (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2021)
- *Clique Here* (Scholastic, 2021)
- *Double Clique (Scholastic, 2021)*
- *The Not-So-Tiny Tales of Simon Seahorse* Series (writing as Cora Reef) (Little Simon, 2021)

Think of Anna for: picture books, chapter books, and middle grade fiction, specifically those that feature humor, light fantasy, middle school/tween drama, mystery, identity narratives, animal friendship stories, fairy tales and retellings, and adventure.

Representation: Ammi-Joan Paquette | ajpaquette@aevitascreative.com







SUMA SUBRAMANIAM

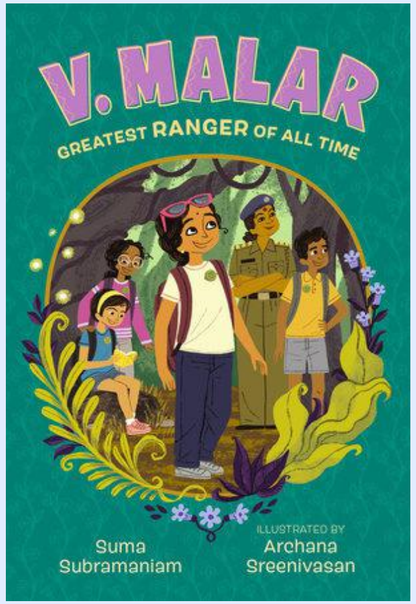
Suma Subramaniam is a recruiter by day and a children's book author by night. She is the author of several children's books including the V. Malar series (Candlewick Press, 2024, 2025, 2027), *My Name Is Long As A River* (Penguin Workshop, 2024), and Crystal Kite Award Winner, *Namaste Is A Greeting* (Candlewick Press, 2022). Her poems have been published in the Young People's Poetry edition of Poetry Magazine from Poetry Foundation. She is a volunteer at We Need Diverse Books and SCBWI Western Washington. When she's not writing, she's blogging about children's books. Suma has an MFA in Creative Writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Visit her website at https://sumasubramaniam.com to learn more.

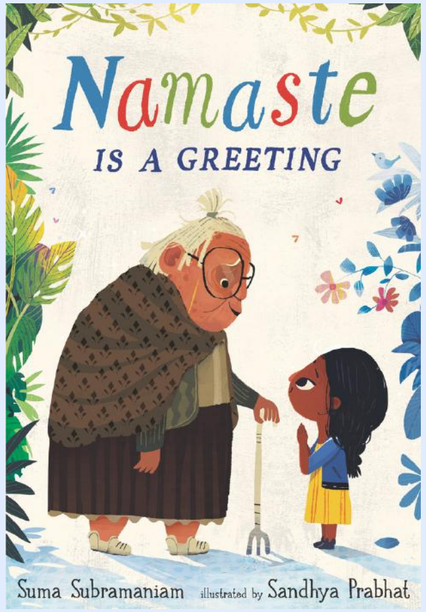
Published titles:

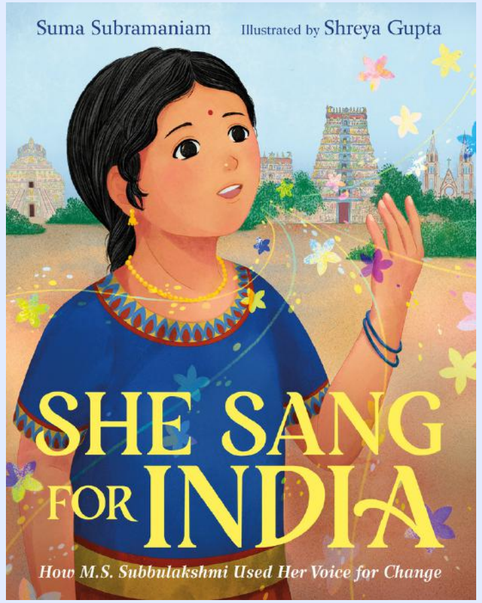
- *V. Malar* middle grade series (Candlewick Press, 2024, 2025)
- *The Hero Next Door (Yearling, 2021)*
- *Centaurs (Picture Window Books, 2021)*
- *Fairies (Picture Window Books, 2021)*

Think of Suma for: India/Indian culture, folklore, and mythology, Hindu/Tamil culture, people, places, food, and holidays, family stories, adventure stories, mystery, dogs, chapter books, board books, picture books, middle grade, STEM/STEAM topics, animals, conservation, climate change, social justice, humor, fantasy, young adult, poetry, short stories, biographies for all ages, and nonfiction.

Representation: Miranda Paul | mpaul@aevitascreative.com







ALEX TEMBLADOR

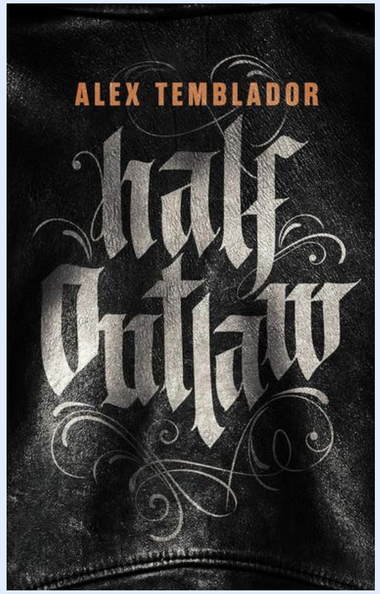
Alex Temblador is the Mixed Latine award-winning author of *Secrets of the Casa Rosada* and *Half Outlaw*. She received her MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Central Oklahoma and is a contributor to *Living Beyond Borders: Growing Up Mexican in America* and *Speculative Fiction for Dreamers: A Latinx Anthology*. Alex has taught creative writing seminars, workshops, and classes with the Women's Fiction Writers Association, WritingWorkshops.com, the Writer's League of Texas, and more, as well as spoken about diversity in the literary world with the Texas Library Association, Abydos Learning Conference, and at many other festivals, conferences, and universities. She is an award-winning travel, arts, and culture journalist who specializes in diversity, equity, and inclusion, publishing in the likes of *Conde Nast Traveler, Outside*, and *Travel + Leisure*, and speaking about such topics at SXSW, the Society of American Travel Writers, and the World Travel Market. Alex lives in Dallas, Texas, where she runs a literary panel series called LitTalk.

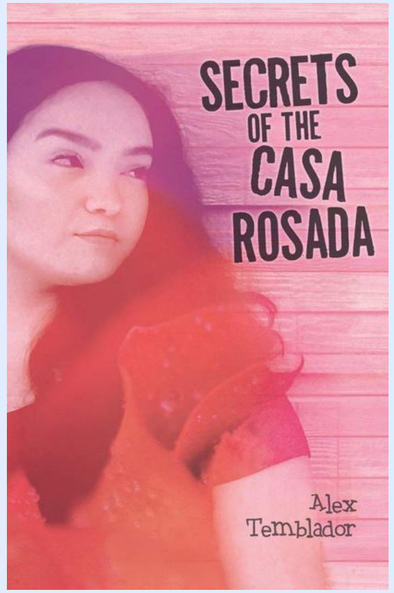
Published titles:

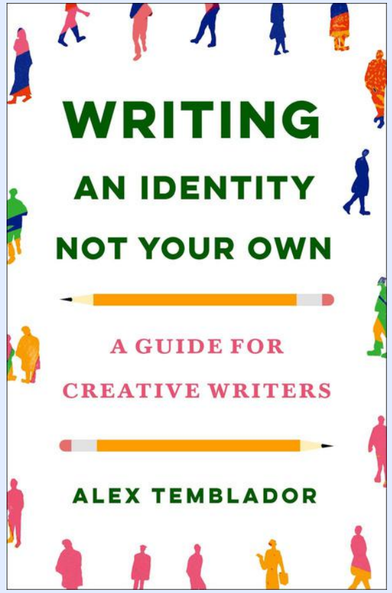
- *Writing an Identity Not Your Own: A Guide for Creative Writers* (St. Martin's Essentials, 2024)
- *Half Outlaw* (Blackstone, 2022)
- *Secrets of the Casa Rosada* (Pinata Books, 2018)

Think of Alex for: young adult projects.

Representation: Mary C. Moore | mmoore@aevitascreative.com







DEBORAH UNDERWOOD

Deborah Underwood is the author of more than forty books for kids, including Caldecott Honor Book *Outside In*, Golden Kite Award winner *The Man Who Didn't Like Animals*, *The Panda Problem*, *Interstellar Cinderella*, and *New York Times* bestsellers *The Quiet Book*, *The Loud Book*, and *Here Comes the Easter Cat*.

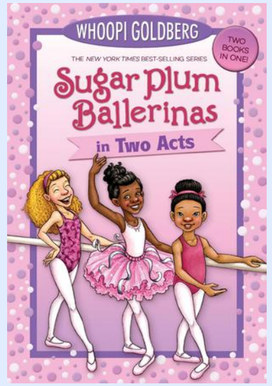
She grew up in Walla Walla, Washington and attended Pomona College. She currently lives in Northern California.

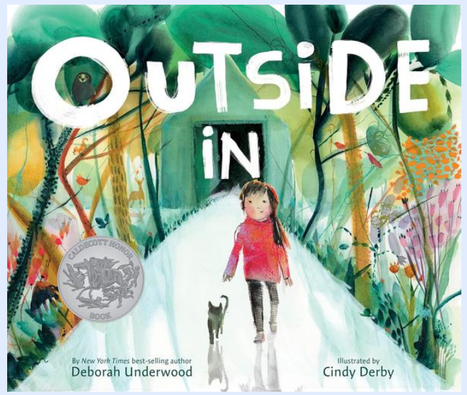
Published titles:

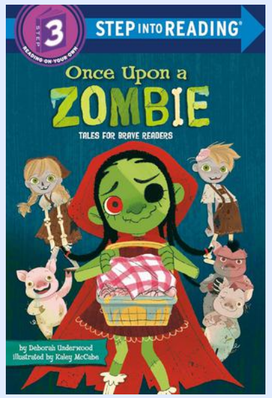
- *The Man Who Didn't Like Animals* (Clarion, 2024)
- *Walter Had a Best Friend* (Beach Lane, 2022)
- *Outside In* (HMH, 2020)
- *Interstellar Cinderella* (Chronicle, 2015)
- *The Quiet Book* (HMH, 2010)

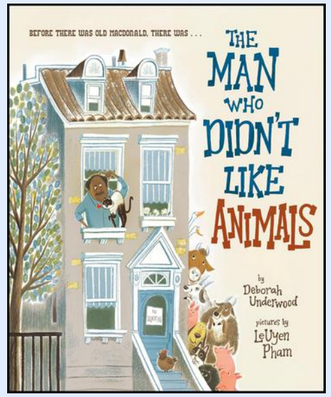
Think of Deborah for: board book, picture book, easy reader, chapter book, nonfiction, fiction, poetry, humor, nature, animals (especially maligned or unappreciated ones), environmentalism, gardening, veganism.

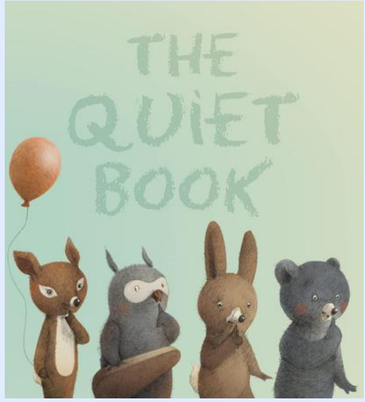
Representation: Erin Murphy | emurphy@aevitascreative.com

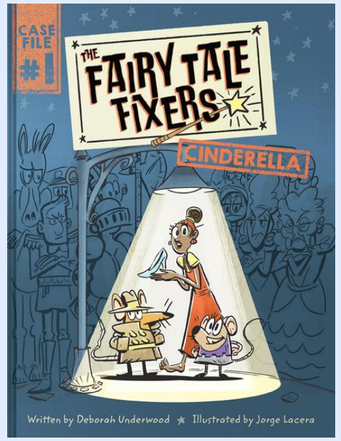


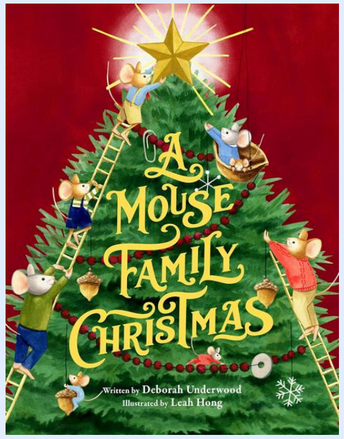












AUDREY VERNICK

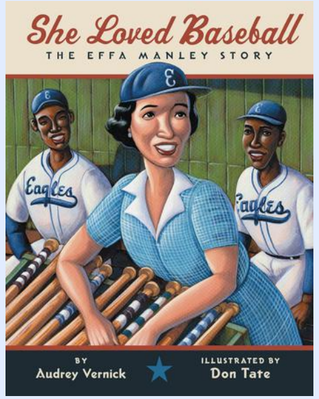
Audrey Vernick is the author of more than 30 books for young readers. Her nonfiction titles focus on baseball's lesser-known history, including the *New York Times* Notable Book *Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team*. Audrey has received three writing fellowships from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and her books have been translated into a dozen languages. A frequent presenter at schools throughout the country, she lives near the ocean with her family.

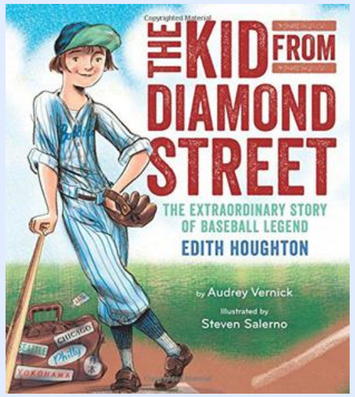
Published titles:

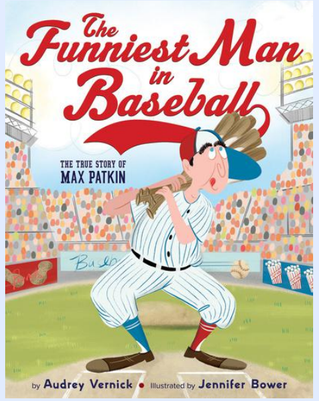
- *All-Star: How Larry Doby Smashed the Color Barrier in Baseball* (Clarion, 2022)
- *The Funniest Man in Baseball: The True Story of Max Patkin* (Clarion, 2018)
- *The Kid from Diamond Street: The Extraordinary Story of Baseball Legend Edith Houghton* (Clarion, 2016)
- *Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team* (Clarion, 2012)
- *She Loved Baseball: The Effa Manley Story* (Clarion, 2010)

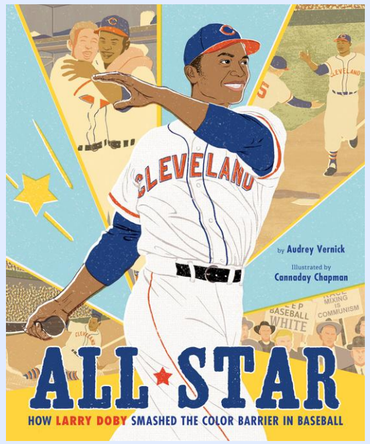
Think of Audrey for: picture books about baseball.

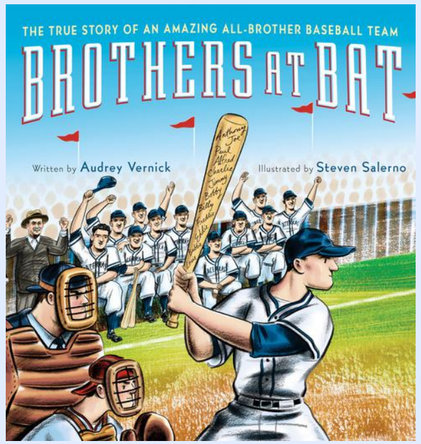
Representation: Erin Murphy | emurphy@aevitascreative.com











DONNA WASHINGTON

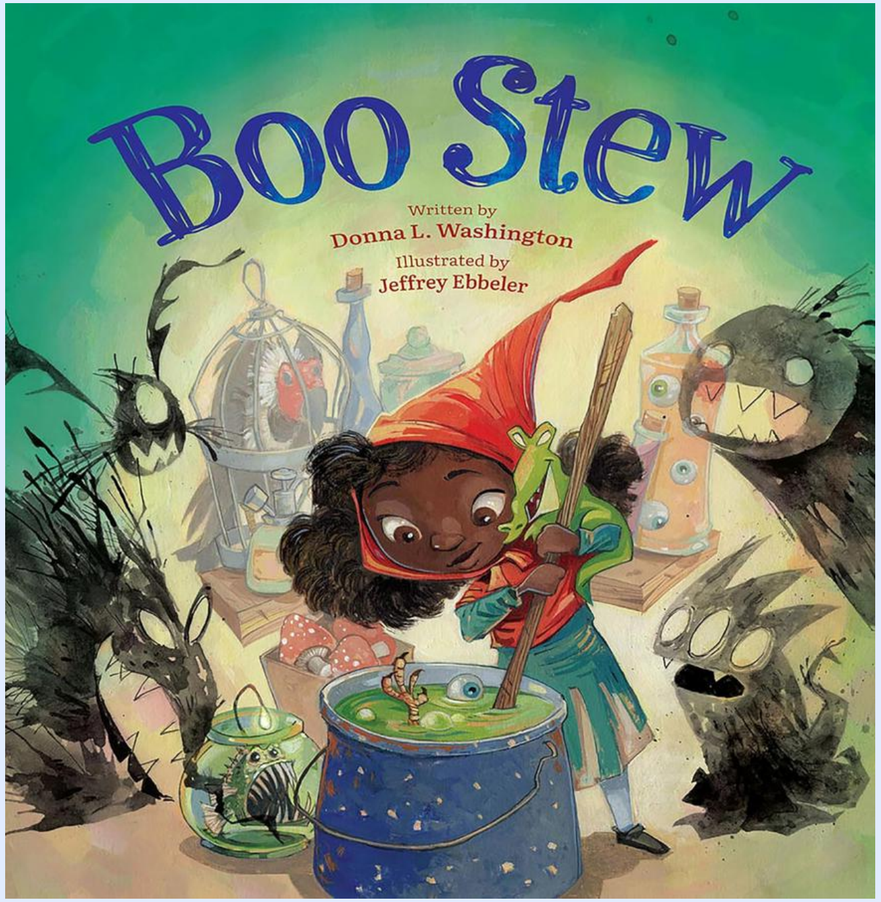
Donna Washington is an award-winning internationally known master storyteller, artist-educator, and author who has been providing workshops and performing for audiences of all ages for over thirty-six years. She has authored numerous articles about storytelling and education. In 2020, she co-founded the non-profit organization Artists Standing Strong Together with Master Storyteller Sheila Arnold for which they won a 2021 Oracle Award. In 2022 she received the Coleen Salley Storytelling Award.

Published and forthcoming titles:

- *The Shortest Tuskegee Airman* (Peachtree, 2026)
- *Prak Fills The House* (Peachtree, 2023)
- *Boo Stew* (Peachtree, 2021)
- *Li'l Rabbit's Kwanzaa* (Katherine Tegen Books, 2010)
- *A Pride of African Tales* (Amistad Books for Young Readers, 2004)
- *A Big Spooky House* (Jump at the Sun, 2000)
- *The Story of Kwanzaa* (Harper Collins, 1997)

Think of Donna for: picture books, chapter books, middle grade, humor, rhyme, African tales, fantasy, Black history, family, mixed family, fables, quirky, storytelling.

Representation: Mary C. Moore | mmoore@aevitascreative.com



JO WU

Jo Wu is an author raised by Taiwanese immigrants in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she studied Biology and Creative Writing at UC Berkeley. Her short story, “Devoured by Envy,” was praised by *Publishers Weekly* as “the most Gothic of the successful stories” from the gothic anthology Darker Edge of Desire. When she is not writing, she will be sewing her next costume, auditioning for voiceover gigs, and running the Asian Employee Resources Group for her fintech company.

Published and forthcoming titles:

- *A Village Made of Rainbows* (Little Brown, 2026)

Think of Jo for: East Asian culture, mythology, and history, especially with relations to China and Taiwan, fantasy heavily influenced by fairy tales and non-Western mythologies and folklore, science fiction with an optimistic outlook, historical fiction that focuses on Asian voices, contemporary with offbeat characters (think tarot readers, metalheads, video gamers, cosplayers, etc.), spins on gothic classics, including *Frankenstein*, *Dracula*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Picture of Dorian Gray*, etc., mental health and trauma (not afraid to go heavy!), diary and epistolary format (think the Royal Diaries series, Amelia’s Notebook series, and Princess Diaries series), family and intergenerational stories, Asian-American social justice/activism/visibility, costuming, sewing, and cosplay, movie novelizations, biographies, tarot, and food, especially when it comes to Chinese and Taiwanese cuisine and snacks.

Representation: Tricia Lawrence | tlawrence@aevitascreative.com

CHRISTINA WYMAN

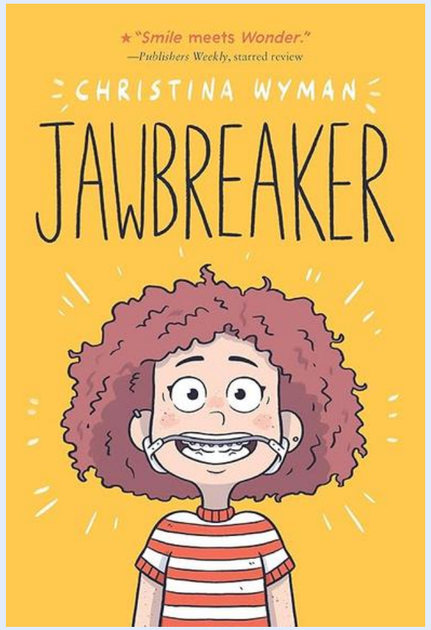
Christina Wyman is the *USA Today* and *Publishers Weekly* bestselling author of *Jawbreaker*, *Slouch,* and *Breakout*. She lives in Michigan with her husband and silly rescue cats Alfred and Greta Cannoli—not to mention the raccoons, owls, and hummingbirds that occupy a tree outside their bedroom window. She grew up in a tiny apartment with her family in Brooklyn, New York, where she dreamed of becoming a writer. Her essays have been published in *New York Magazine*, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *Elle Magazine*, *Ms. Magazine*, *The Independent*, and other outlets. Her debut novel, *Jawbreaker*, a middle-grade book that follows a seventh-grader with a craniofacial anomaly, is a Publishers Weekly Best Books of 2023. When she's not writing, you can find her stocking up on chocolate or trying to convince her husband to adopt more cats. Most recently, she's developed a passion for eating strawberry jam straight out of the jar.

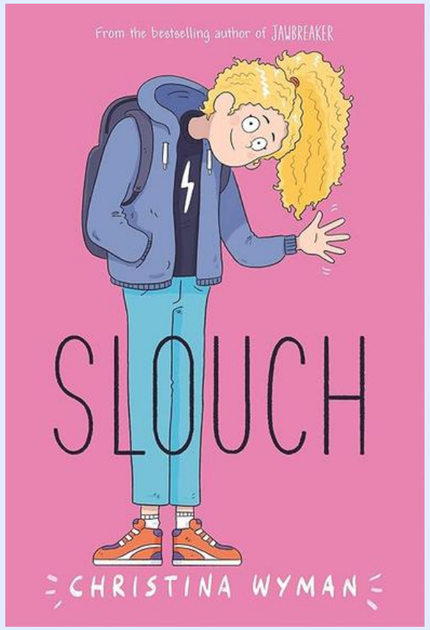
Published and forthcoming titles:

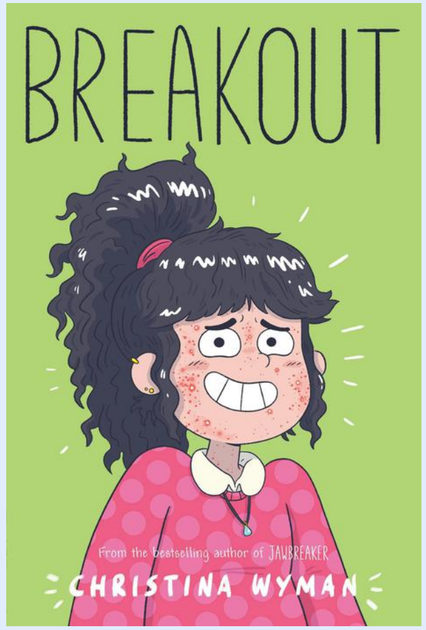
- *Mean* (forthcoming from FSG BFYR)
- *Breakout* (FSG BFYR, 2026)
- *Slouch* (FSG BFYR, 2024)
- *Jawbreaker* (FSG BFYR, 2023)

Think of Christina for: contemporary MG & YA fiction, socioeconomic disparity, education/school settings, trauma (individual and inter-generational), toxic families/complicated family dynamics, humor, feminism, struggles with identity.

Representation: Erin Murphy | emurphy@aevitascreative.com







Thank you!

We hope you found this guide to our illustrators and authors interested in IP work helpful. If you are interested in working with one of these talented creators, please email the agent listed on their page.

To view our illustrator's full portfolios and find out more about ACM Kids & Illustration, check out our website- acmkidsandillustration.com.