

**2023
BOOKS**

WERNICK & PRATT AGENCY

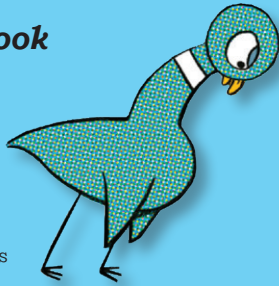
BE THE BUS

Mo Willems / Union Square
Spring 2023

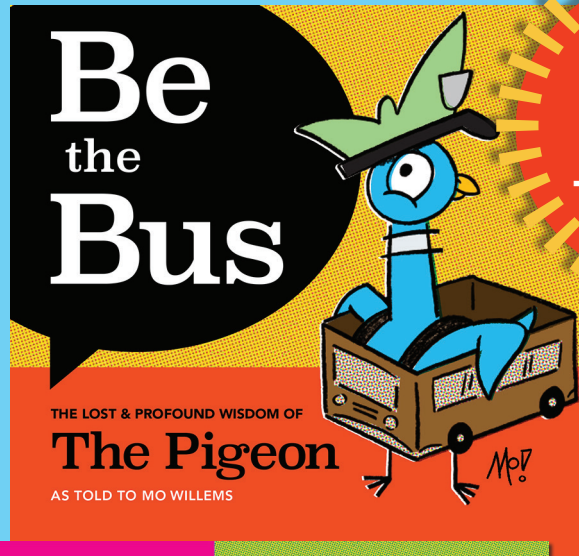
#1 New York Times bestselling author and illustrator Mo Willems shares wit and wisdom from The Pigeon in this one-of-a-kind humor book for adults.

Discover important tips, thoughts, opinions, quotes, complaints, and basic philosophical misunderstandings in this profound collection of Pigeon-isms. This 80-page, gift-sized collector's title features all-new original art along with big (and little) Pigeon-y tidbits to ponder.

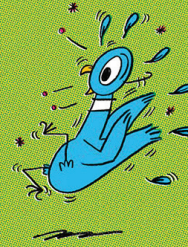
**A must-have book
for grown-up
Pigeon fans.**



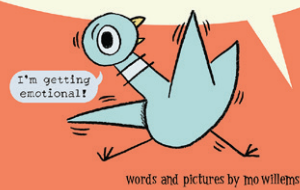
© Mo Willems



Surprises
happen when you least expect them.



The Pigeon
Will Ride the
Roller Coaster!



THE PIGEON WILL RIDE THE ROLLER COASTER!

Mo Willems / Union Square Kids / Fall 2022 / Starred review from Booklist

Australian, Korean, and simplified Chinese rights sold

Mo Willems is back with everyone's favorite boastful bird. Buckle up for twists, turns, and emotional loop-de-loops in the most roller coaster-y Pigeon book ever!

Who can say
"no" to this
face?

Don't
Let the
Pigeon
Drive the
Bus!



THE PIGEON SERIES

Titles within the series have been licensed for British, Catalan, Dutch, French, Italian, German, Norwegian, Greek, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, Simplified and Traditional Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Arabic, Azerbaijani, Farsi, Hebrew, Maori, Portuguese, and Turkish translation rights.

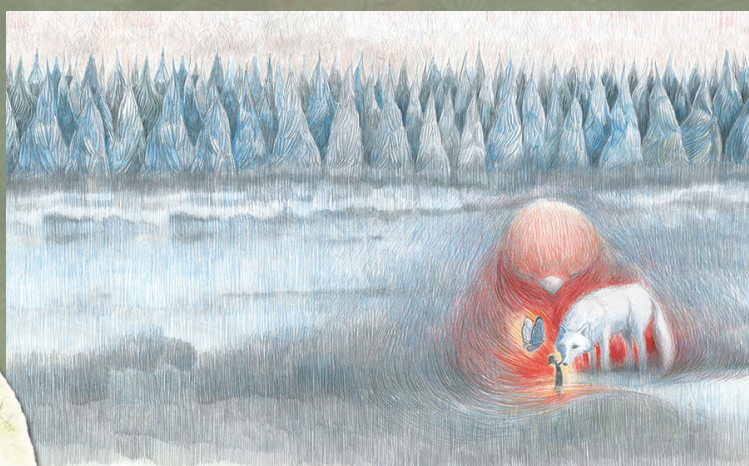
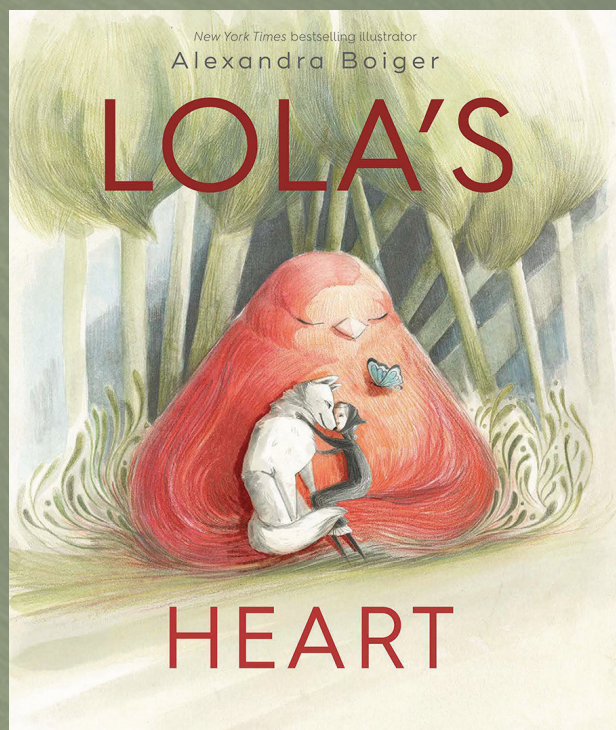


LOLA'S HEART

Alexandra Boiger / Philomel Books / Summer 2023

A gorgeous wordless picture book about the power of love to overcome fear by the #1 New York Times bestselling artist of the She Persisted series

In this stunning picture book, Lola heads out into the world with a dream in her heart and the love of her family and friends by her side. But when her dream gets lost, her heart is wounded. Lola cannot nurse it back to health on her own, but love steps in—and is patient and kind and protects Lola and her heart until they can heal and head off again to find new dreams. Award-winning and bestselling illustrator Alexandra Boiger creates a breathtakingly beautiful allegory to reassure readers that no matter how broken they or their hearts may be, love will always be there to see them through.



© Alexandra Boiger

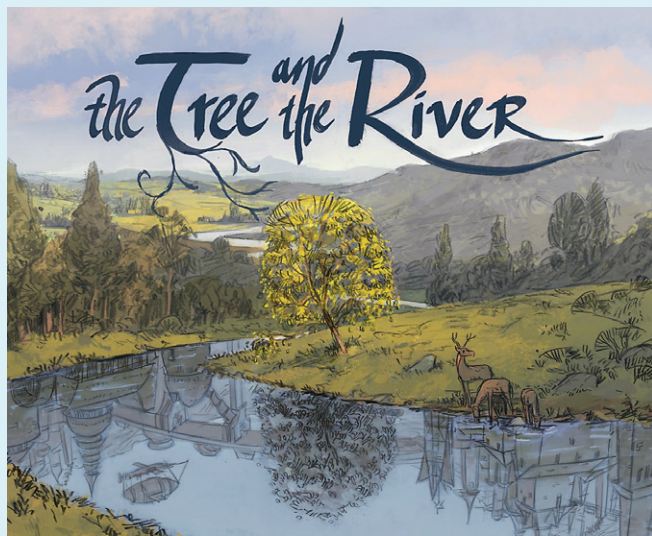


THE TREE AND THE RIVER

Aaron Becker / Candlewick / Spring 2023
Starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *PW*, *Horn Book*,
Foreword Reviews, and *School Library Connections*
Korean translation rights sold

A stunning accomplishment—Kirkus Reviews

Aaron Becker takes the reader on another journey in this new wordless masterpiece. Readers will get a timelapse look at one small corner of the world that changes with the arrival, influence, and progression of human activity. Despite all these changes, the power of nature always prevails to reclaim the landscape.



In a sweeping, carefully detailed work that's visually reminiscent of *Anno's Journey*, Becker distills a lengthy timeline into bite-size rises and falls whose beats offer hope and solace for the long term. —Publishers Weekly

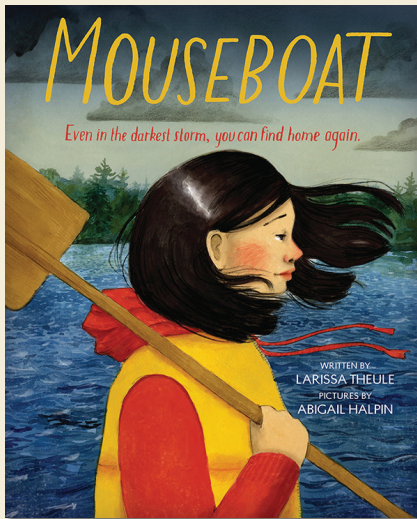


© Aaron Becker

MOUSEBOAT

Larissa Theule, illustrated by Abigail Halpin / Viking Children's Books
Spring 2023 / Penguin Random House handles illustration rights

From the author of *Kafka and the Doll* comes a luminous and layered picture book about a girl coming to terms with her mother's death as she navigates a small boat through a maelstrom. The story is grounded in a sense of loss—yet every spread brims with life.



© Abigail Halpin



KAFKA AND THE DOLL

Larissa Theule, illustrated by Rebecca Green
Viking Children's Books / Spring 2021
Starred reviews from *Booklist* and *SLJ*
Japanese, Simplified and Complex Chinese, Vietnamese,
Greek, and Turkish translation rights sold
Viking Children's Books handles illustration rights

Inspired by a true story, *Kafka and the Doll* recounts a remarkable gesture of kindness from one of the world's most bewildering and iconic writers. In the fall of 1923, Franz Kafka encountered a distraught little girl on a walk in the park. She'd lost her doll and was inconsolable. Kafka told her the doll wasn't lost, but instead, traveling the world and having grand adventures! And to reassure her, Kafka began delivering letters from the doll to the girl for weeks. *Kafka and the Doll* is a testament to living life to the fullest and to the life-changing power of storytelling.

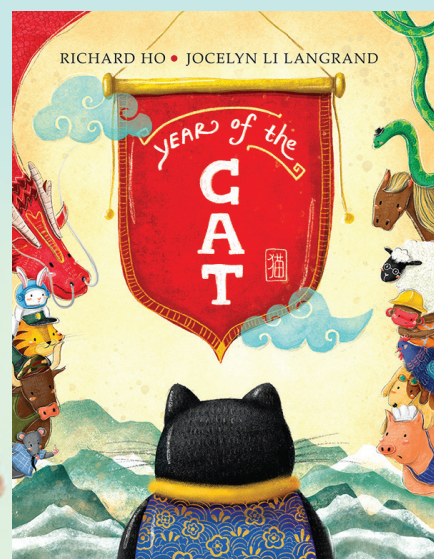
“This set of quiet encounters between a writer and a child has as much going on between the spare, poetic lines as in them.” —*Booklist*



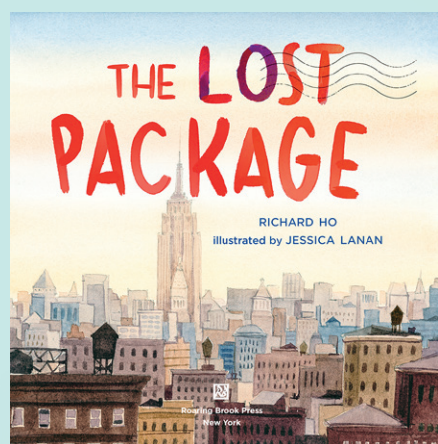
YEAR OF THE CAT

Richard Ho, illustrated by Jocelyn Li Langrand
Greenwillow Books / Fall 2022
Andrea Brown handles illustration rights

In the aftermath of the Great Race to the Jade Palace, Rat feels guilty about denying Cat a place in the Chinese zodiac. So he convinces the other eleven animals to join him on a journey to apologize to Cat. But he might just learn a lesson along the way about the true meaning of finishing first. (Hint: it isn't always winning!)



THE LOST PACKAGE



Richard Ho, illustrated by Jessica Lanan / Roaring Brook
Spring 2021 / Starred reviews from Kirkus, PW and Booklist
Sanford Greenburger handles illustration rights
Text rights available Fall 2023

A Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Children's Book of 2021

A Kirkus Best Picture Book of 2021

Like other packages, this one began as an empty box. It was packed with great care, sealed tight, and given a personal touch. Like other packages, it left the post office with hope. But unlike most packages, before it got to its destination...



© Jessica Lanan

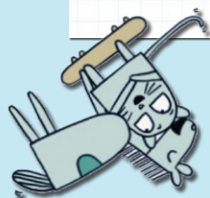
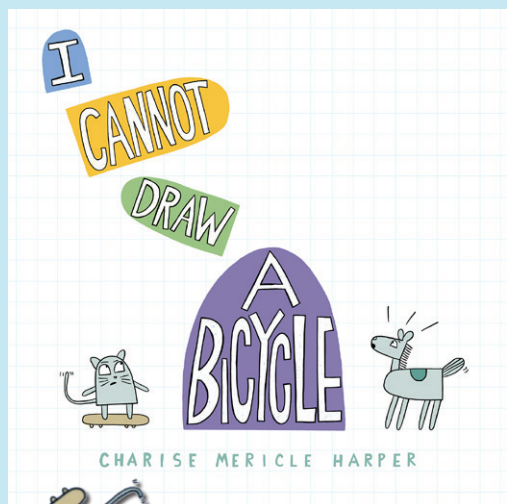
it
 got
 lost.

Follow one package that loses its way and discover a friendship tale that proves distance can't always keep us apart.



©Jocelyn Li Langrand

I CANNOT DRAW A BICYCLE



© Charise Mericle Harper

COOL!

I WANT
SOMETHING
COOL.

I
WANT A
BICYCLE.



Charise Mericle Harper / Union Square Kids / Fall 2023

Award-winning author and illustrator Charise Mericle Harper creates a laugh-out-loud picture book about making something out of nothing.

The Horse wants a bicycle.

A bicycle is hard to draw.

The Book cannot draw a bicycle.

But the Book CAN draw shapes.

Can the Horse and the Cat build a bicycle from shapes? Or will their dreams end in pieces?

I CANNOT DRAW A HORSE

Charise Mericle Harper / Union Square Kids / Fall 2022 / Starred review from Booklist

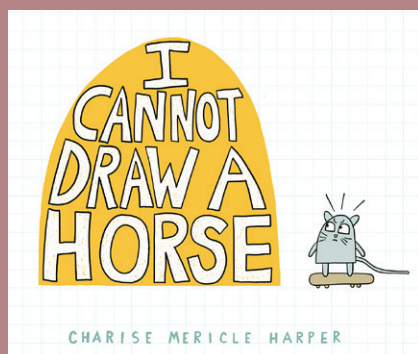
The cat wants a horse.

The book cannot draw a horse.

The book CAN draw a squirrel, a beaver, and a bunny.

Fun . . . but the cat still wants a horse.

Can the quick-draw book appease the horse-obsessed cat with an impressive collection of horse-y alternatives (all created from the same “nothing shape”)? Or will the cat finally get a horse? The cat REALLY wants a horse.



© Charise Mericle Harper

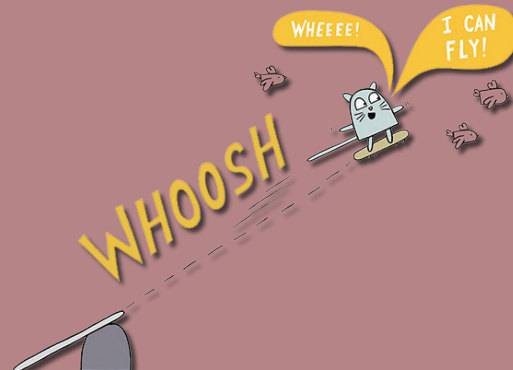


HURRY!
HURRY!

THAT BEAR
IS
NOT FUN!

WHEEEE!

I CAN
FLY!



JUNETEENTH

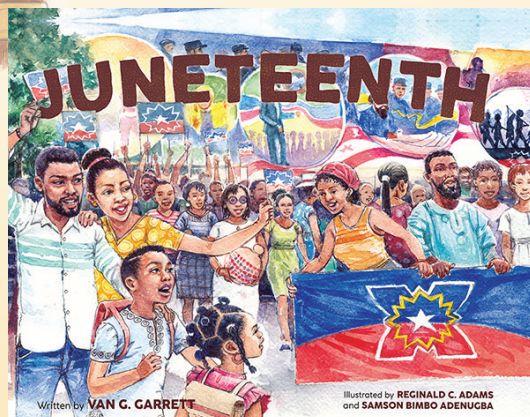
Van G. Garrett

Illustrated by Reginald Adams & Samson Adenugba

Versify-HarperCollins / Spring 2023

HarperCollins handles illustration rights

A young Black child experiences the magic of the Juneteenth parade for the first time with their family as they come to understand the purpose of the party that happens every year—and why they celebrate their African American history! The poetic text includes selected lyrics from “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” the unofficial Black National Anthem, and the colorful art illuminates the beauty of this moment of Black joy, celebrated across the nation. This vibrant adventure through the city streets invites young readers to make a joyful noise about freedom for all.



© Reginald C. Adams & Samson Adenugba

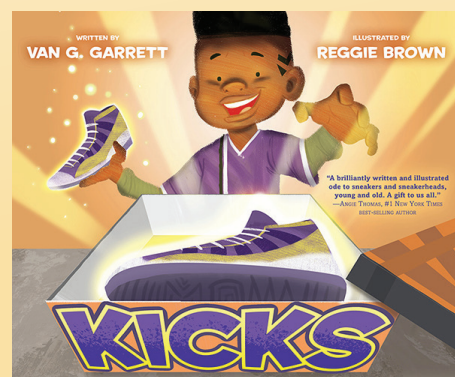
KICKS

Van G. Garrett

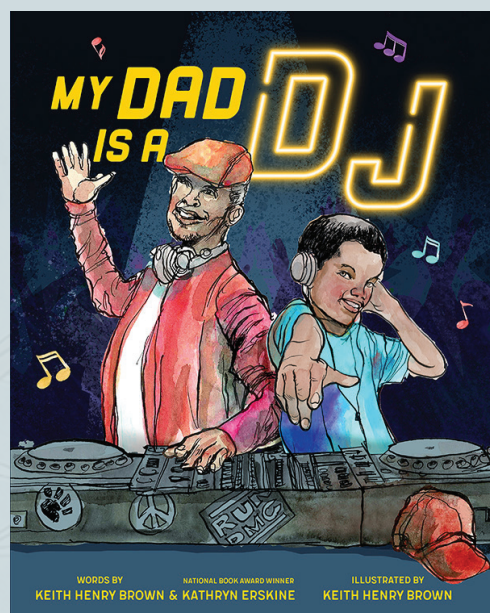
Illustrated by Reggie Lewis / HMH-Versify

Spring 2022 / Tugeau Agency handles illustration rights

Kicks is a love letter to sneakers. But not just any sneakers. Only the flyest, floatiest, you-est kicks you can get—the ones that let you soar. This colorful, rhythmic adventure has something to offer anyone who prizes a great pair of shoes and any reader who loves to play with their words.



MY DAD IS A DJ



Keith Henry Brown and Kathryn Erskine

Illustrated by Keith Henry Brown

Farrar Straus Giroux / Spring 2023

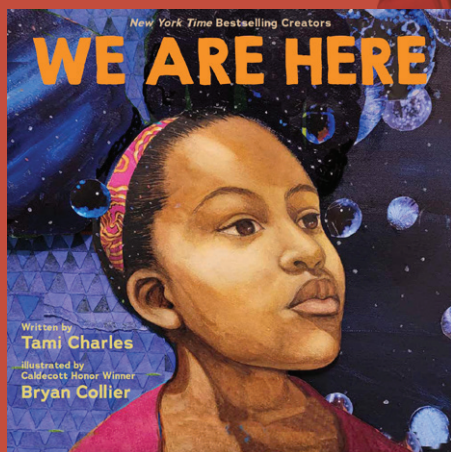
Macmillan handles illustration and partial text rights

Trevor's dad is a DJ, and he always picks the best music—tunes jivin', beat drivin', high fivin'! —he's DJ Dap Daddy!

But after his parents split up and Dad moves out, Trevor feels like the pitch doesn't fit between them. Trevor has his own music now—hip-hop—and Dad can't seem to let go of his old soul favorites. As the end-of-year dance approaches, Trevor and his father will have to find their new groove to get the party started.

My Dad Is a DJ is a hip-hoppin', beat boppin', tunes poppin', not stoppin' story of a father and son's shared love of music and each other.

WE ARE HERE

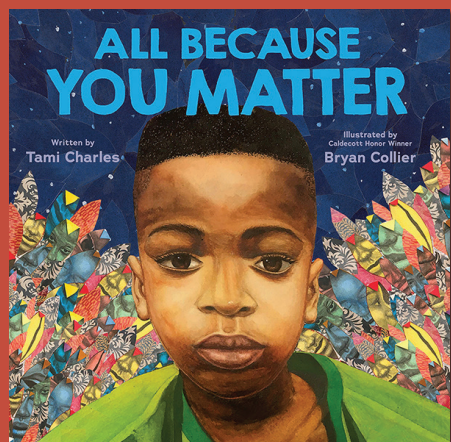


© Bryan Collier

Tami Charles, illustrated by Bryan Collier / Scholastic Press
Spring 2023 / Starred review from *Horn Book*
Andrea Brown handles text rights

Lyrical, affirmational, and bursting with love, *We Are Here* is a poignant story about Black and brown heritage and community, celebrating all of the Black women and men throughout history who have made momentous contributions from the beginning of time. Tami Charles's powerful and empowering text is accompanied with illustrations by renowned artist Bryan Collier, a four-time Caldecott Honor recipient and a nine-time Coretta Scott King Award winner or honoree.

ALL BECAUSE YOU MATTER



Tami Charles, illustrated by Bryan Collier / Scholastic / Fall 2020
Starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly*, *Kirkus* and *Horn Book*

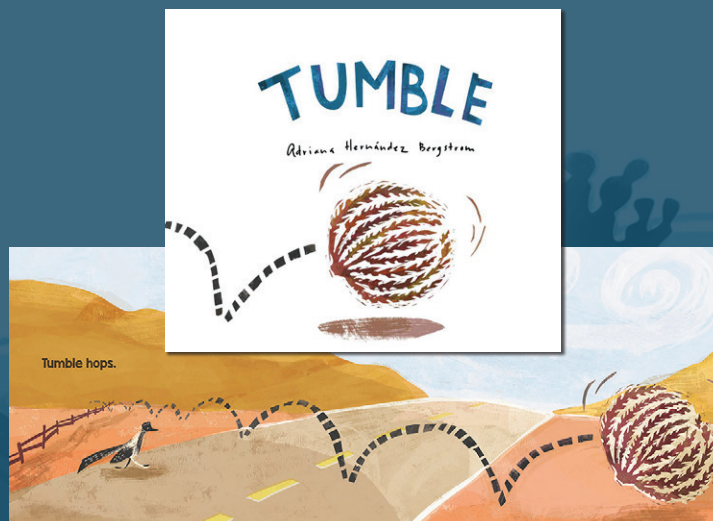
From powerhouse team Tami Charles and Bryan Collier comes a lyrical, heart-lifting love letter to Black and brown children everywhere that is full of hope, assurance, and love.

Nurturing, nourishing, loving and reassuring, expanding and deepening the words of the movement it echoes
— *Kirkus*

TUMBLE

Adriana Hernandez Bergstrom
Scholastic / Summer 2023

Pushed by winds, baked by the sun, corralled by fences, and awakened by rain, tumbleweeds are unusual annuals, with a life cycle of seed, flower, fruit, and decay. In simple, succinct text and richly colored art, Adriana Hernandez Bergstrom follows one tumbleweed on its journey across the desert. The illustrations include flora and fauna local to Big Bend, Texas, from prickly pears to javelinas. Back matter includes more information about tumbleweeds and the desert environment.

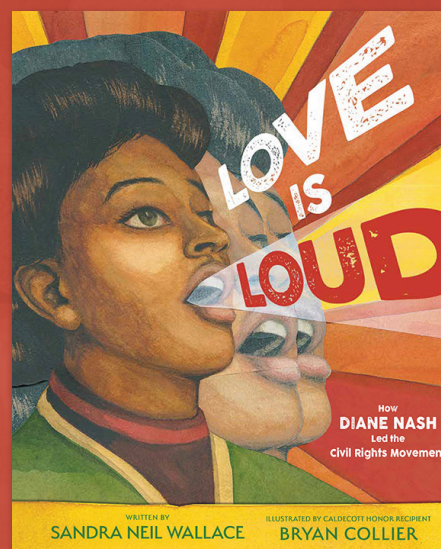


© Adriana Hernandez Bergstrom

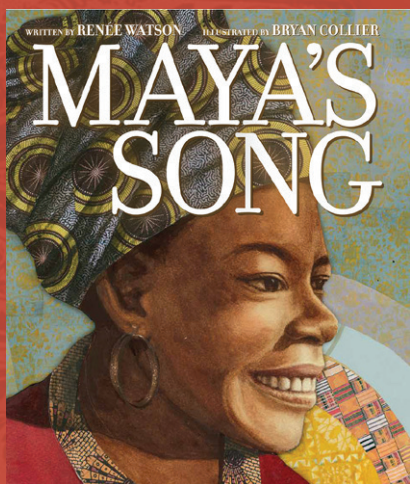
LOVE IS LOUD: HOW DIANE NASH LED THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Sandra Neil Wallace, illustrated by Bryan Collier
Paula Wiseman Books-Simon & Schuster / Spring 2023
Starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *Horn Book* and *PW*
Andrea Brown handles text rights

Shocked to see a bathroom sign that read *For Colored Women* in 1959 Tennessee, Chicago-born Diane Nash learned that segregation in the South was part of daily life. She decided to fight back, not with anger or violence, but with strong words of truth and action. *Love Is Loud* is a powerful portrait of an unsung hero of the Civil Rights Movement.

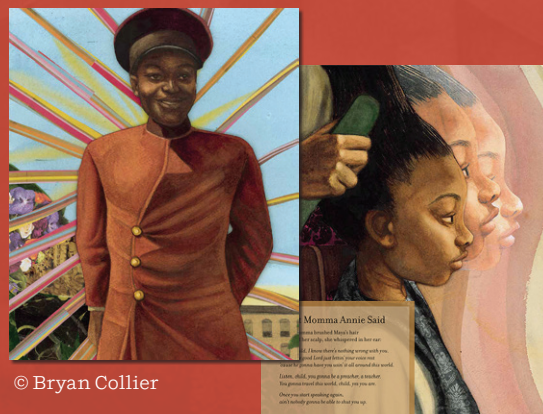


MAYA'S SONG



Renee Watson, illustrated by Bryan Collier / HarperCollins
Fall 2022 / Starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *Booklist*, *PW*
HarperCollins handles text rights

Poet, activist, and storyteller Maya Angelou's words have inspired, empowered and uplifted generations of readers. Vivid and striking collage art by four-time Caldecott Honoree Bryan Collier completes this unforgettable portrait of an artist whose work will never be forgotten.



THIS WAY, CHARLIE

Caron Levis, illustrated by Charles Santoso
Abrams Books for Young Readers / Spring 2020
 Japanese and Korean translation rights sold
Abrams Books handles illustration rights

All the animals at the Open Bud Ranch can see that Jack the goat likes keeping his space to himself. But when a new horse named Charlie arrives, he doesn't see Jack at all. He's still getting used to seeing out of only one of his eyes. The two get off to a bumpy start. At first, Jack is anxious and distrustful. But one day, he summons his courage and guides Charlie to his favorite sunlit field. *This way, Charlie.* And so begins a powerful friendship that will be tested by life's storms—but will ultimately change each life for the better.



**TOP
SECRET!
NEW MO BOOKS
COMING SOON!**

OPPOSITES ABSTRACT

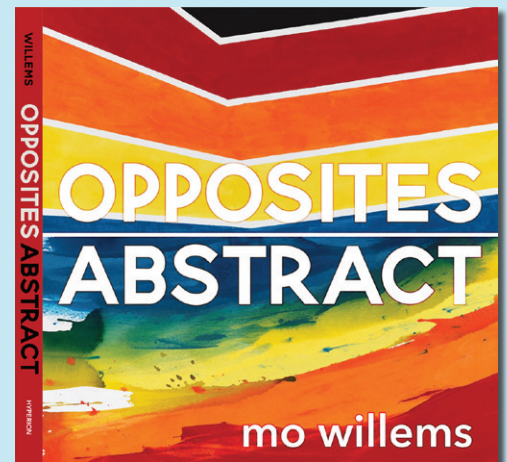
Mo Willems / Disney-Hyperion Books for Children / Fall 2021
Starred review from *Kirkus*

Is this dark? Is this light? Is this soft? Is this hard?

Using colors, shapes, lines and textures, Willems invites readers to explore abstract concepts through eye-popping, emotive, and highly-accessible artwork and delivers a masterfully inquisitive look at opposites.



© Mo Willems



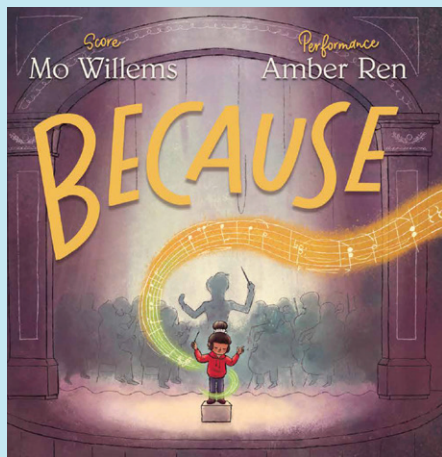
BECAUSE

Mo Willems, illustrated by Amber Ren

Disney-Hyperion Books for Children / Spring 2019

Starred reviews from *Booklist* and *PW* / Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean, French Canadian, and Romanian translation rights sold Taryn Fagerness handles illustration rights on behalf of Andrea Brown Literary Agency

Mo Willems, a number-one *New York Times* best-selling author and illustrator, composes a powerful symphony of chance, discovery, persistence, and magic in this moving tale of a young girl's journey to center stage. Illustrator Amber Ren brings the author's music to life, conducting a stunning picture book debut.

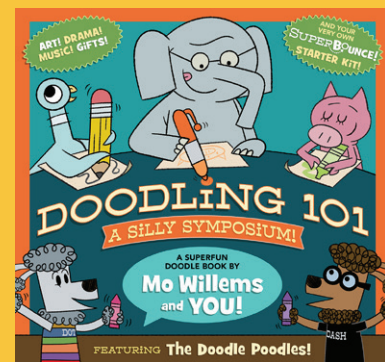


© Amber Ren

DOODLING 101: A SILLY SYMPOSIUM

Mo Willems / Disney-Hyperion Books for Children / Summer 2021

Draw impossible buildings, animate favorite characters, design sets, make puppets, give gifts, and create abstract art with this 144-page activity book. Kids get writing and drawing tips from Mo across 15 chapters of daily doodling fun. Bonus features include perforated gatefold SuperBounce!™ gameboards, pop-out finger puppets, and how-to-draw instructions of popular Mo Willems characters.



UNLIMITED SQUIRRELS SERIES

Soon to be an animated/live-action TV series!

Mo Willems, creator of the revolutionary, award-winning, best-selling Elephant & Piggie books, has another breakout beginning-reader series. An ensemble cast of Squirrels, Acorns, and pop-in guests hosts a page-turning extravaganza. Each book features a funny, furry adventure AND bonus jokes, quirky quizzes, nutty facts, and so, so many Squirrels!

UNLIMITED SQUIRRELS #5: THE FRUSTRATING BOOK!

Mo Willems / Disney-Hyperion Books for Children / Fall 2022

UNLIMITED SQUIRRELS #4: GUESS WHAT!

Mo Willems / Disney-Hyperion Books for Children / Fall 2021

UNLIMITED SQUIRRELS #3: I WANT TO SLEEP UNDER THE STARS!

Mo Willems / Disney-Hyperion Books for Children / Fall 2020

Starred review from *SLJ*

UNLIMITED SQUIRRELS #2: WHO IS THE MYSTERY READER?

Mo Willems / Disney-Hyperion Books for Children / Fall 2019

Simplified Chinese translation rights sold

UNLIMITED SQUIRRELS #1: I LOST MY TOOTH!

Mo Willems / Disney-Hyperion Books for Children / Fall 2018

Starred reviews from *Booklist* and *SLJ* / Simplified Chinese translation rights sold



© Mo Willems

ELEPHANT & PIGGIE

Mo Willems / Disney-Hyperion Books for Children

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© Mo Willems

GET A SNEAK PEEK OF A FEW TERRIFIC PICTURE BOOKS COMING SOON!



NOT FINAL ART

KAIJU HAIKU

George McClements
Hippo Park / Spring 2024

Where is one to go when in need of a little tender-loving care?

This is the dilemma that Kaiju faces when they come down with a bad cold. The only problem, of course, is that anywhere Kaiju goes, they make an entrance that some see, as well . . . destructive, sparking fear and mayhem. A simple question asked, however, is all it takes to be a cure all for everything—soothing monstrous sniffles and mass hysteria alike!

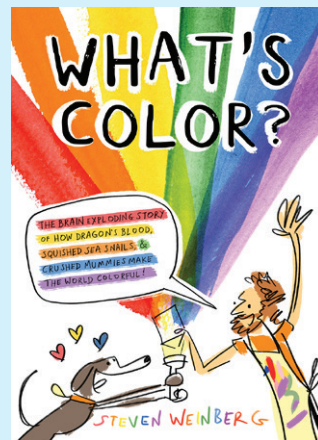


BETWEEN WORDS

Saki Tanaka / Scholastic Press
Spring 2024

An immigrant child seeks to connect in this tender debut picture book

Kai has followed his pa from place to place through the seasons for as long as he can remember. In each place, Kai stacks stones as little wishes. One day they reach a valley of pools, where Pa says they can stay for a few seasons. Kai tries to talk to the local children, but they laugh at his strange words. Frustrated, Kai kicks his latest stack—and his favorite stone falls deep into a pool! Kai plunges in to save it. There he discovers a way to connect between words.



WHAT'S COLOR?

Steven Weinberg
Roaring Brook Press
Spring 2024

What do toxic sludge, dragon's blood, avocado pits, powdered bugs, and cutting edge nanotechnology have in common? They all make color! *What's Color?* tells the global story of how color has been made over the past 64,000 years in an immensely researched, yet highly accessible (and funny!) hybrid graphic novel format.

WERNICK & PRATT AGENCY

Wernick & Pratt partners with subagents in many territories for foreign rights sales.

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