



Rights Guide **Fall 2023**

Children's Titles

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Co-Agent Contacts for Gillian MacKenzie Agency Children's Titles

China, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam: The Grayhawk Agency

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 Clare Chi, clare@grayhawk-agency.com
 Thailand, Vietnam: Itzel Hsu, itzel@grayhawk-agency.com

Croatia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bosnia, Macedonia, Montenegro: Corto Literary Agency

Diana Matulić, diana@cortoliterary.com
 Antonija Radić, antonija@cortoliterary.com
 Simona Kaleva, simona@cortoliterary.com

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Albania, Romania: Livia Stoia Agency

Lidia Dumitru, lidia.dumitru@liviastoiaagency.ro

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Aurélie Lefebvre, aurelie@elianebenisit.com

Germany: Thomas Schlueck GmbH

Friederike Belder, F.Belder@schlueckagent.com

Greece: Read n' Right Agency

Nike Davarinou, readrgh@ath.forthnet.gr

Hungary: Andrew Nurnberg Literary Agency Budapest

Susanna Vojacek, rights@nurnberg.hu

Israel: The Deborah Harris Agency

Geula Guerts, geula@thedeborahharrisagency.com

Italy: Berla & Griffini Rights Agency

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 Vanessa Maus - B&G <maus@bgagency.it>

Japan: The English Agency

Hamish Macaskill, hamish@ej.co.jp
 Yui Hirose, yui.hirose@ej.co.jp

Korea: Korean Copyright Center

Hyoju An (hjan@kccseoul.com)

Poland, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Serbia, Romania: Graal Literary Agency

Paulina Machnik, paulina.machnik@graal.com.pl

Russia: Van Lear Agency

Katya Ilina, LiteraryAgent@vanlearagency.com

Spain, Brazil, Latin America, Portugal: The Foreign Office

Teresa Vilarrubla, teresa@theforeignoffice.net
 Júlia Garrigós, julia@theforeignoffice.net

Turkey: Kalem Agency

Ayda Konez, rights4@kalemagency.com

UK/ANZ: Holroyde Cartey

Penny Holroyde, penny@holroydecartey.com
 Claire Cartey, claire@holroydecartey.com

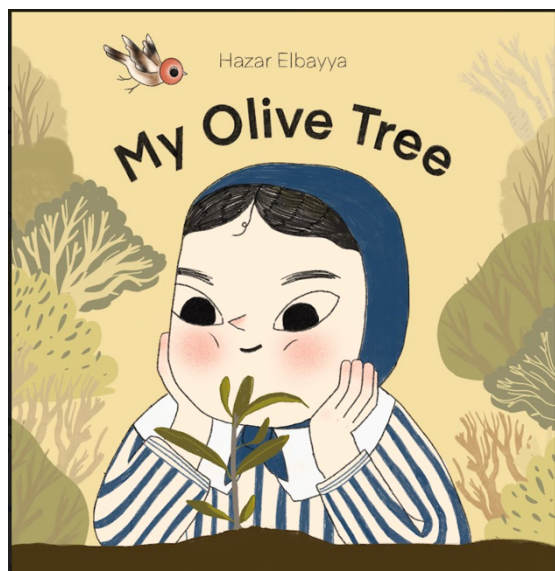
All other territories contact: gmackenzie@gmalit.com

Front List

(listed in order of projected publication date)

MY OLIVE TREE

written and illustrated by Hazar Elbayya



A little girl decides to plant an olive tree after learning from her grandfather its importance to her heritage, only to have it trampled by soldiers. But the spirit of one girl, her grandfather, and the community around her can't be vanquished.

Children's: **Picture book**

Pub Date: September 24, 2024

[Final PDF available Jan. 15, 2024](#)

**Anne Schwartz Books/ Random House
(N/Am English)**

Format: 32 pages, illustrated

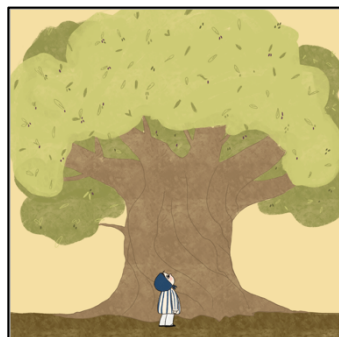
Editor: Anne Schwartz

Materials available now: Full draft book

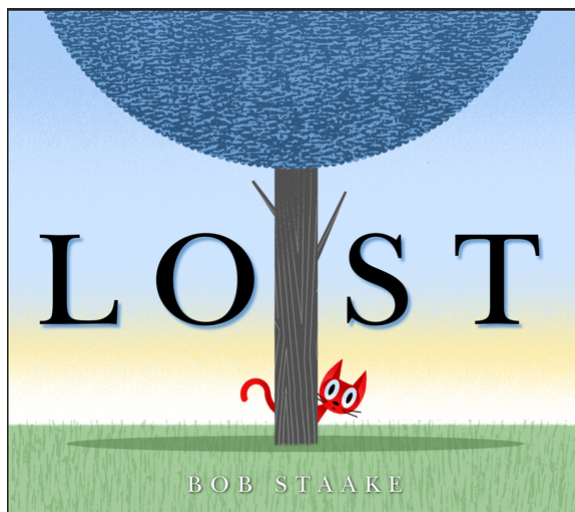
“A heartfelt story of identity and heritage that celebrates family and the power of a community working together...” — Juana Medina, Pura Belpré Award-winner

*** Sold in four-imprint, two-book auction for six-figures**

*** A universal story allowing a sensitive way to discuss conflict with children**



LOST by Bob Staake



A playful, wordless, story about losing, finding, and making a community. LOST takes readers on a journey as a girl seeks to find her missing cat, helped by surprising characters along her way.

Children's: Picture book

Pub date: October 1, 2024

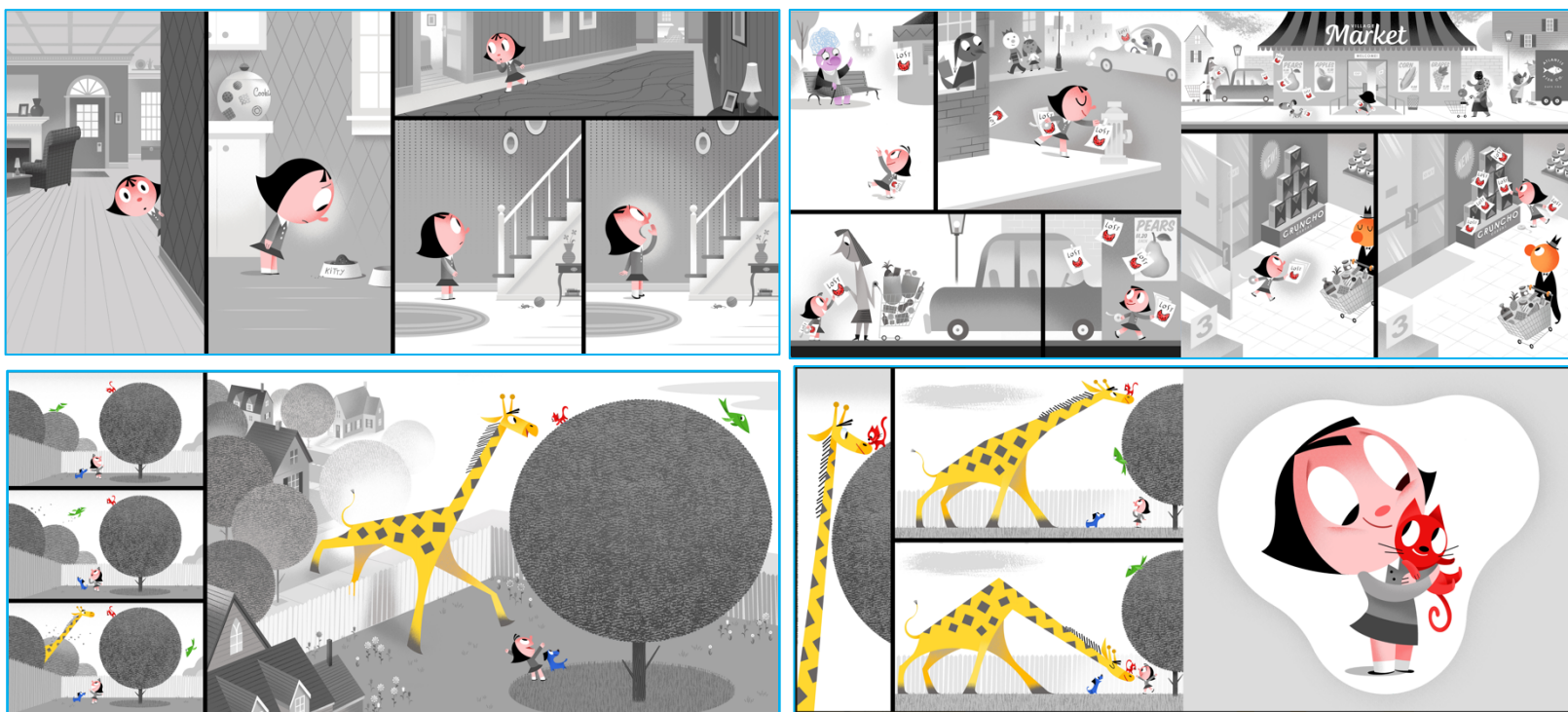
Final PDF available: December 15, 2023

Anne Schwartz Books/ Random House (world English)

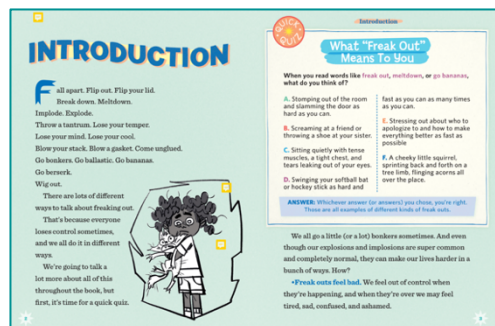
Format: 32 page, 4-color illustration

Editor: Anne Schwartz

Materials available now: Full sketched dummy available; jacket and 4 final interiors



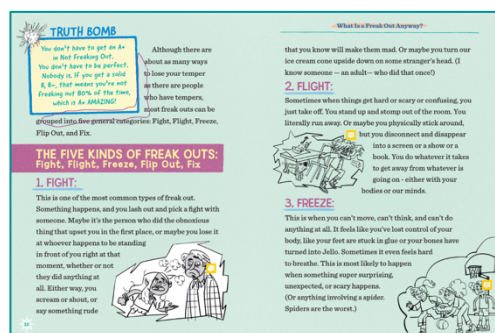
HOW TO STOP FREAKING OUT: *The ultimate guide to keeping your cool when life feels chaotic* by Carla Naumburg



A humorous, nonjudgmental, and practical illustrated guide to help middle-schoolers understand why they act the way they do when they lose their cool, and how to minimize them, by celebrated social worker and bestselling author.

*** Children's companion book to the international bestseller for parents, HOW TO STOP LOSING YOUR SH*T WITH YOUR KIDS (Workman),**

+Adult title has hundreds of thousands of copies sold and translation rights to 22 territories and counting



sketches/ rough layout

Children's nonfiction:

Middle Grade/ prescriptive/ self-help

Pub date: October 2024

First pass available 10/15/23

Workman Kids (N/Am)

Editor: Pam Bobowitz

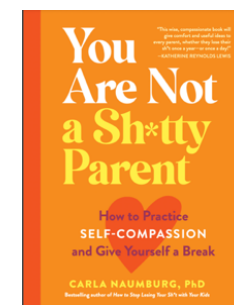
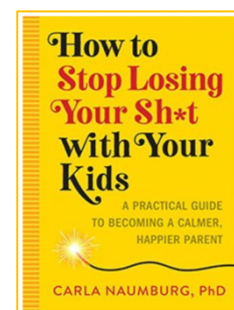
Materials available now: [copyedited draft](#)

PRAISE FOR ADULT COMPANION TITLES:

"It's easy to see why Naumburg's side-splittingly funny and relatable work resonates so strongly during a challenging time. Essential reading." – **Starred review, Library Journal**

"Naumburg's advice is invaluable and reassuring while truly embracing the humor of it all."—**Starred review, Booklist**

Option publishers for adult titles (handled by the Marsh Agency): **UK/ANZ:** Yellow Kite;; **German:** Trias; **Italian:** Newton Compton; **Polish:** Muza; **Hungarian:** Publish & More; **Taiwan:** China Times; **China:** Beijing United; **Thai:** Amarin; **Dutch:** Gotmer/Altamira; **Vietnamese:** Women's Publishing House; **Lithuanian:** Briedis; **Croatia:** Stilus; **Russian:** MIF; **Turkish:** Aykırı Yayınları; **Greek:** Psychogios; **Indonesian:** PT Elemedia Komputindo; **Romanian:** Editura Corint and Curtea Veche; **Lithuanian:** Briedis; **Arabic:** Jarir Bookstore; **Slovanian:** Učila International; **Serbian:** Laguna; **Korean:** Hainaim Publishing



SHOW STRIDES

by Rennie Dyball & Piper Klemm



A contemporary take on bestselling horse series such as *The Saddle Club*, SHOW STRIDES—starring equestrian Tally Hart and friends as they work together to succeed both in and out of the show ring—brings the world of horses to a new generation of readers.

Middle grade series

Book 1&2: Fall 2024

Book 3: Spring 2025

Book 4: Summer 2025

Book 5: Fall 2025

Book 6-7: TK

Andrews McMeel (N/Am)

Format: 176-208 pgs., 5.25"x 8.5"

Spot Art by Dolo Okęcki (40 images)

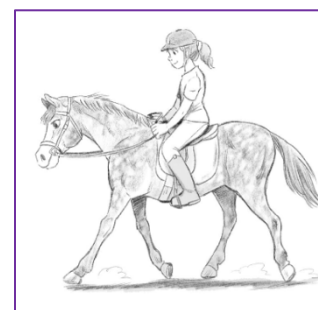
Editor: Hannah Dussold

Materials available now: [Uncopyedited books 1-5](#)

*** Sold in a 7-book deal!**

*** Andrews McMeel & Simon and Schuster sales force aim to transform this self-publishing success story into bestselling series.**

*** Co-Author is Publisher of [The Plaid Horse](#) —North America's #1 horse show magazine and brand with one million monthly views, with more than 130,000 followers.**



ELENA CAMPS — *Sequel to Elena Rides*

written & illustrated by Juana Medina



The second in an early reader series starring a plucky young elephant accompanied by her sidekick humorously learning a new skill and navigating emotions.

Children's: Early Reader

Pub date: Spring 2025

Artwork book 2 due: February 24

Candlewick (N/Am English/ N/AM Spanish)

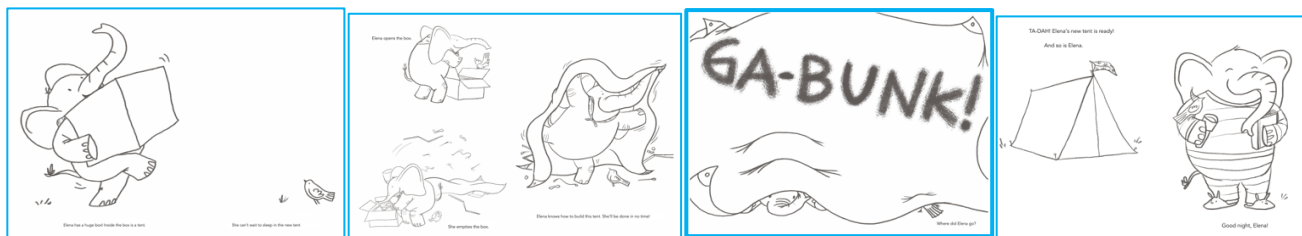
Format: 32 pages, illustrated

Editor: Mary Lee Donovan

Materials available now: [Book 1: final PDF](#); [Book 2: Final text and full dummy sketches](#)

*** Sold at in 2-book auction for six-figures**

*** Written/illustrated by Pura Belpré-award winner**



book one ELENA RIDES: published March 2023

“Medina captures substantial emotional highs and lows in this inspiring tale of persistence.” **-Publishers Weekly (STARRED REVIEW)**



LUISA! & untitled book two

written by Sara Amini & illustrated by Juana Medina



The first two books in a series starring a spirited protagonist Luisa, and her pet chicken, Pablo, as they go on adventures in their plaza in Salento, Colombia and beyond.

Children's: Picture book

Pub Date: Fall 2025

Final art due: October 2024

Dial Books for Young Readers

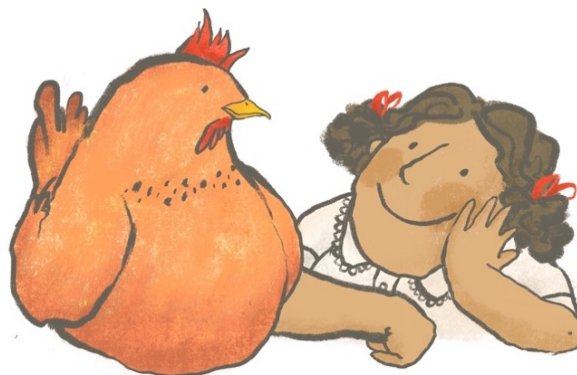
(N/Am English/ N/Am Spanish)

Format: 32-40 pages, illustrated

Editor: Nancy Mercado

Materials available now: Second draft book one, Sample & sketches

- * Sold in 6-imprint auction for healthy 6-figures
- * Written by actress co-starring in AMC+ series, Lucky Hank, starring Bob Odenkirk
- * Illustrated by Pura Belpré-award winner
- * Being positioned as the next potentially-bestselling series akin to *Olivia*, or *Fancy Nancy*, or *Eloise*, or *Madeline*



LIGHTS, CANTER, ACTION

by Katie Gilbert

——Just Sold in a Pre-empt——

Category: Young adult / romantic drama

Publisher: Union Square & Co.

Projected pub date: Spring 2025

Editor: Laura Schreiber/Stefanie Chin

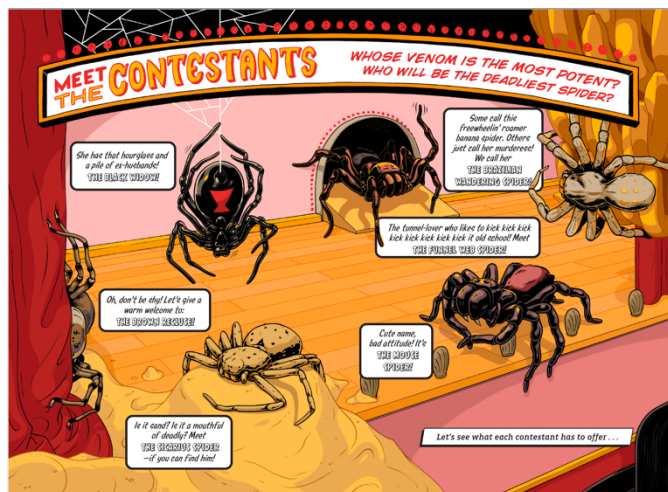
Page count: Roughly 176 (but TBD)

M/S delivery date: Final due 4/1/24

A perfect blend of fake-dating and enemies-to-lovers romance—and horses meets Hollywood— that will have readers' hearts pounding and the pages turning!

On the back of a horse, seventeen-year-old Nora Green can pretend her life isn't falling apart. But when she slides from the saddle, reality always comes crashing down again. So when she is accepted into a prestigious horse training program in Montana, she can't wait to go. The only problem? It's expensive and she's broke. But as luck would have it, a Hollywood movie is filming in her hometown, and they need someone to handle the horses. Nora can handle wrangling horses, but she isn't prepared to wrangle the film's main star and Hollywood bad boy, Alexander Mathis. As the pair spend more and more time together and Alexander starts to race away with her heart, the line between what is real and what is fiction begins to blur.

THE DEADLIEST! *Graphic nonfiction series* by Eleanor Spicer Rice PhD & *illustrated by Max Temescu*



The Deadliest is a funny, informative STEM graphic novel series for ages 6-9 by a top entomologist. Each book stars a comedic line-up of deadly (and not-so-deadly) species, each vying for the title of *the* deadliest, as if in a talent contest, while offering scientific facts throughout.

Gillian MacKenzie Agency's UK and translation agents represent the full project (text and illustration) on behalf of Author and Illustrator agencies.

Middle grade nonfiction /Graphic novels

Norton Young Readers (N/Am)

Pub dates: **The Deadliest Spider-- Winter 2025** (art delivery February 2024)

The Deadliest Big Cat --Winter 2025 (art delivery February 2024)

The Deadliest Snake --Summer 2025 (art delivery July 2024)

The Deadliest Flower --Summer 2025 (art delivery July 2024)

The Deadliest Insects --Fall 2025 (art delivery December 2024)

The Deadliest Sea Creature --Fall 2025 (art delivery December 2024)

Editor: Simon Boughton

Format: 25K words with four color illustrations throughout

Materials available now: Full draft of all six titles; sketches Books 1&2

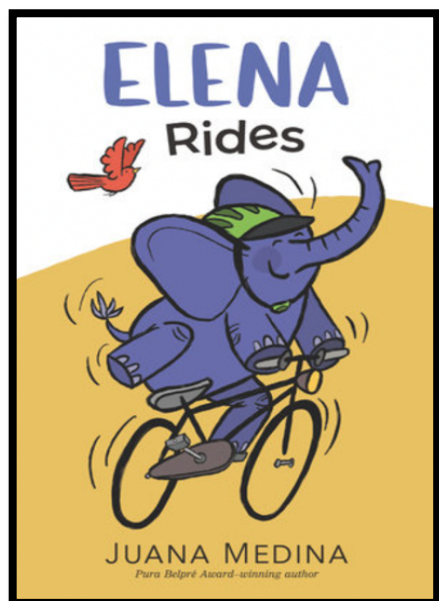
*** Bought at auction in 6-book deal**

*** Similar appeal as *WHO WOULD WIN*—a series that has sold millions of books—but with more humor and written by an expert scientist**

Dr. Eleanor Rice is a celebrated entomologist and author, most recently of *Ants: Workers of the World* (Abrams); the nonfiction graphic novel series illustrated by **Rob Wilson**, *Unseen Jungle* and the upcoming *Undercover Lives* (Candlewick Press); and the upcoming picture book, *After the Rain* (Candlewick Press).

Backlist

ELENA RIDES: *Book one of ELENA series* written & illustrated by Juana Medina



The first in an early reader series starring a plucky young elephant accompanied by her sidekick humorously learning new skills and navigating emotions.

Sold at in 2-book auction for six-figures

Written/illustrated by Pura Belpré-award winner

Children's: Early Reader

Pub date: March 2023

Candlewick (N/Am English/ N/AM Spanish)

Format: 32 pages, illustrated

Editor: Mary Lee Donovan

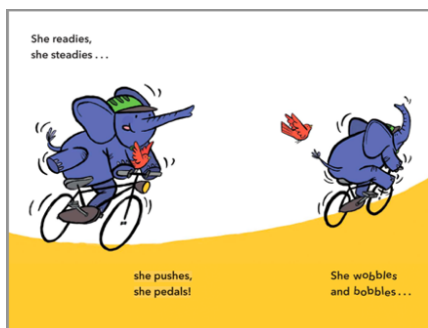
Materials: Book 1: **finals book**

"This cheerful story with colorful illustrations will appeal to new readers and to parents looking for a read-aloud about perseverance." —*School Library Journal Reviews* (STARRED REVIEW)

"Medina captures substantial emotional highs and lows in this inspiring tale of persistence, one that's just right for those taking on another learning curve: reading." — *Publishers Weekly* (STARRED REVIEW)

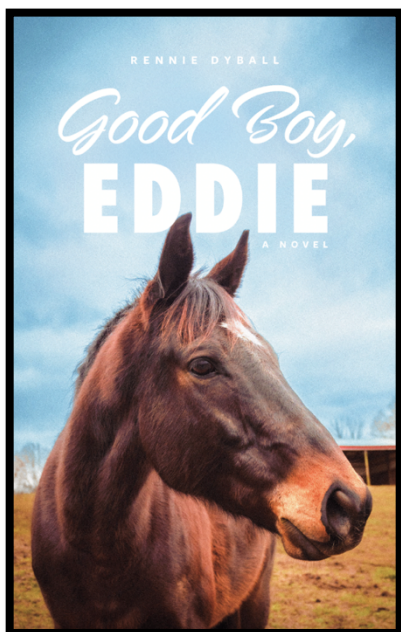
"Storytime listeners will be enthralled. Sensational for reading aloud." — *Kirkus Reviews*

"I think this book is *magic*!! ...Such a great read-aloud!" — **Meg Medina, Newbery Award winner & 2023/24 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature.**



GOOD BOY, EDDIE

by Rennie Dyball



A story of self-acceptance and friendship for all ages, GOOD BOY, EDDIE captures the special bonds we form with animals and what we learn about ourselves along the way. Eddie takes great pride in giving riding lessons. But when he moves to a new barn full of fancy show horses, he begins to doubt himself and his place in the world—all while his rider is doing the same.

Middle grade fiction

May 2023

The Plaid Horse (N/ Am)

Format: 144 pages

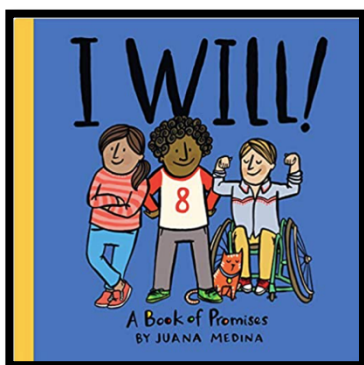
Editor: Piper Klemm

Materials: Final PDF

A modern day BLACK BEAUTY for all ages!

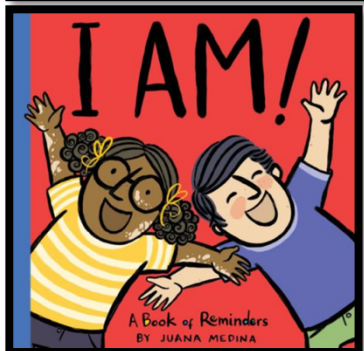
Showcase title for launch of new book publishing arm by publisher of [The Plaid Horse](#) —North America's #1 horse show magazine!

**The Plaid Horse brand reaches one million monthly views
with more than 130,000 followers**



I WILL! series by Juana Medina

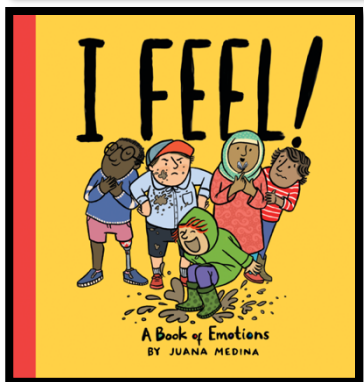
A 3-book series focusing on helping to build emotional literacy, self-esteem, and self-worth as well as improving communication skills, full of bold and playful illustrations and simple but important affirmations, that allow young children, and even adults, to navigate their emotions and foster discussions.



"An accessible guide to becoming a more compassionate global citizen."—[Publishers Weekly](#)

* Sold at auction for six-figures

* Written/illustrated by Pura Belpré-award winner



[Kwame Alexander's video praise](#) of the series is infectious!

[A Washington Post Best Children's Book](#)

Picture book, age 4-7 / 40 pps, four-color

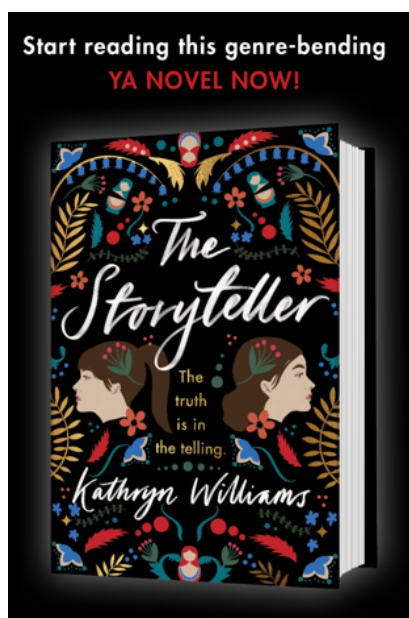
2022

Versify/Clarion (N/ Am)

Editor: Monica Perez

Materials: final books available*





The Storyteller

by Katherine Williams

A modern imagining of the story of Anastasia Romanov, this gripping, moving, and thought-provoking novel takes its reader on a journey back in time, while cleverly addressing issues of love, loss and finding one's self. In 1918, Anastasia Romanov and her entire royal family were brutally executed. Or were they? High school junior Jess opens a trunk in her great great great Aunt's attic in a small town in New Hampshire and discovers journals that suggest she was Anastasia. With the help of a Russian major, our narrator finds herself reading a story of intrigue, betrayal, love and ultimately, death that may, or may not be, that of Anastasia Romanov.

Young adult fiction

HarperTeen (North American)

Editor: Alice Jerman

Pub date: January 2022

Materials: final book available

Film: Hilary Zaitz Michael, William Morris

Rights Sold: Clever (Russia)

Sits in the suspenseful, “grip lit” category, with an unreliable narrator ala *The Girl on a Train*

Coincides with resurgence in popularity of the Romanov story in pop-culture.

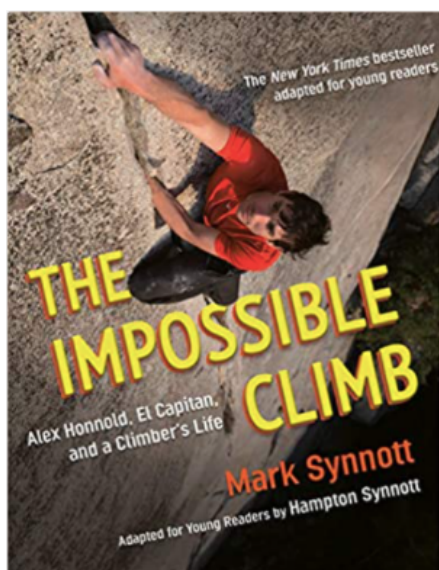
A genre-blending novel that is sure to grip readers to the very end, mixing mystery, romance, historical fiction, and a touch of purpose into one terrific experience. Readers will be engrossed... they will also be encouraged by the message around finding your identity.”— [Booklist](#).

“This is a book that will sit with readers, making them question what exactly is a person’s truth.” – **SLJ**

"Characters who come on the scene with seemingly full-fledged back stories and Jess’s chatty, self-examining narrative make for a breezily engaging read.”—[Publishers Weekly](#)

"The author’s note and recommended sources are sure to please history buffs; this will pair well with Candace Fleming’s *The Family Romanov* and be of particular interest to those fascinated by the many Anastasia impostors." --- **The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books**

THE IMPOSSIBLE CLIMB *young reader's adaptation* by Mark Synnott and Hampton Synnott



A middle grade adaptation of the adult bestseller that chronicles what *The New York Times* deemed "one of the great athletic feats of any kind, ever": Alex Honnold's free-solo ascent of El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. Author Mark Synnott broke the story for National Geographic and the world watched in awe. Now adapted for a younger audience, *The Impossible Climb* tells the gripping story of how a quiet kid from Sacramento, California, grew up to capture the attention of the entire globe by redefining the limits of human potential through hard work, discipline, and a deep respect for the natural world.

Category: Middle Grade Non-fiction

Publisher: Viking (N/ Am) + **Editor:** Aneeka Kalia

Pub date: January 2021 + **Materials:** Final pdfs, book

* The young reader's edition of *The Impossible Climb*,
a *NEW YORK TIMES* MONTHLY BESTSELLER and Amazon Best Book

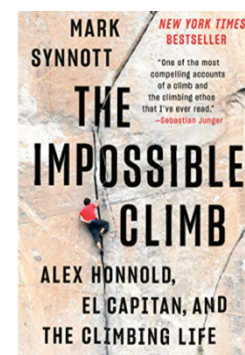
* Focuses on internationally-acclaimed climber,
Alex Honnold, of Academy Award-winning *Free Solo*

"A gripping story for readers of any age." —*Booklist Reviews*

"A heart-pounding adventure that will pull in any reader who is looking to live life to its fullest." —*School Library Journal*, starred review

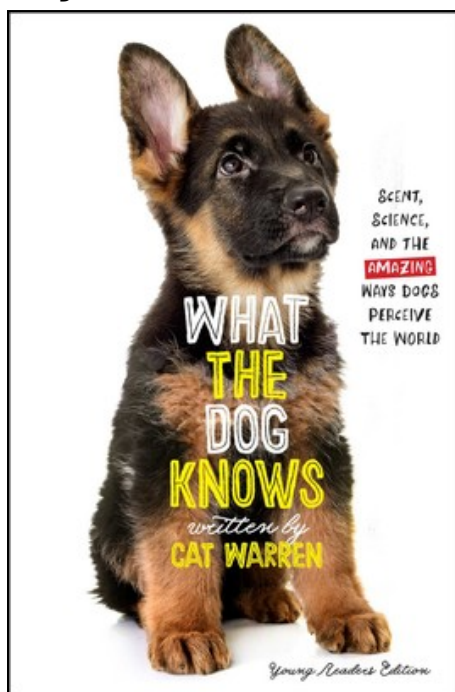
"A scramble into the wild world of rock climbing . . . plenty of thrills." —*Kirkus Reviews*

Adult rights sold: UK/ANZ: Allen & Unwin; **German:** Benevento; **French:** Editions Amphora; **Japanese:** Toyokan Publishing; **Spanish:** Desnivel; **Italian:** Corbaccio; **Simplified Chinese:** Thinkingdom; **Polish:** Publicat; **Croatian:** V.B.Z.



WHAT THE DOG KNOWS:

Scent, Science, and the Amazing Ways Dogs Perceive the World
by Cat Warren



**+ The young readers edition of the
New York Times bestseller**

Cat Warren and her canine companion, Solo, teach readers that the nose knows no bounds when it comes to working together, being persistent, and helping others.

Solo has a fine nose and knows how to use it, but he's only one of many thousands of scent-detection dogs all over the United States. That's a group that includes cadaver dogs, tracking, trailing, and apprehension dogs; dogs that can locate unmarked graves of Civil War soldiers; and even dogs that can find drowning victims more than two hundred feet below the surface of a lake. *What the Dog Knows* shows the science, the rigorous training, and the skilled handling that underlie these amazing abilities.

Category: Middle grade nonfiction

Publisher: S&S Books For Young Readers (N/Am)

Pub date: October 2019 + **Materials:** Final books

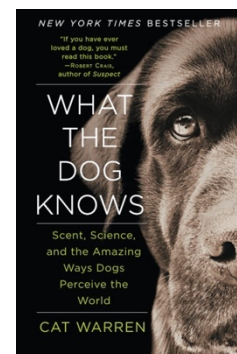
"*What the Dog Knows* offers a fascinating, fun glimpse into the world of dogs. If you've ever loved a dog, you will adore this book." —Robert Crais, *NYT* bestselling author

"Beautifully illustrated, *What the Dog Knows* is perfect for young minds who will embrace the almost magical world of dogs and scent detection."

—Brian Hare and Vanessa Woods, *NYT* bestselling authors of *The Genius of Dogs*

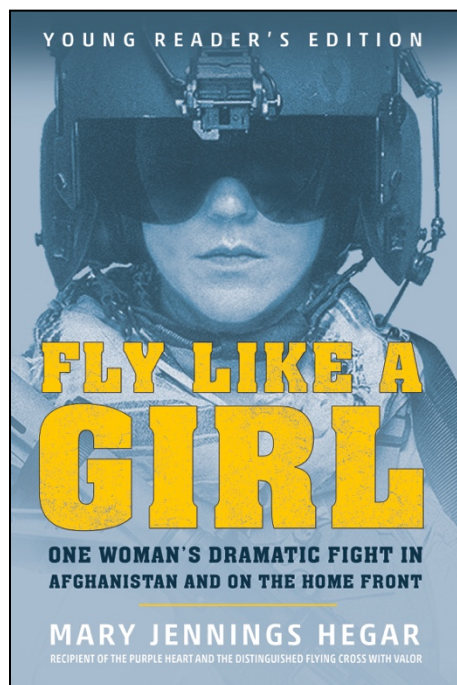
"An exciting, fast-paced journey into the world of scents."—Virginia Morell, *NYT* bestselling author of *Animal Wise*

Adult Edition translation sales: UK/ANZ: Scribe; **Simplified Chinese:** Commercial Press; **German:** Kynos; **Japanese:** X-Knowledge; **Spanish:** KNS Ediciones.



FLY LIKE A GIRL

One Woman's Dramatic Fight in Afghanistan and on the Home Front
By Mary Jennings Hegar



A Young Readers Edition of a compelling story of courage and triumph, this is the inspiring true story of a brave and determined woman who gave her all for her country, her sense of justice, and for women everywhere. On July 29, 2009, Air National Guard Major Mary Jennings Hegar was shot down while on a Medevac mission in Afghanistan. Despite being wounded, her courageous actions saved the lives of her crew and their patients, earning her the Purple Heart as well as the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor Device. That day also marked the beginning of a new mission: fighting for the rights of women to serve openly on the front line of battle for the first time in history.

Includes exclusive photographs throughout, a discussion guide, and a Q&A with the author written specifically for teen readers.

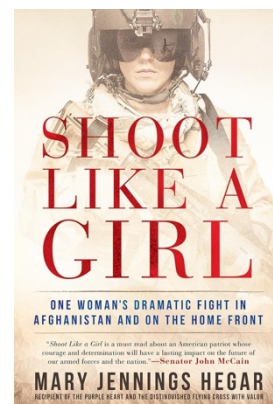
Category: Young Adult nonfiction / memoir

Publisher: Philomel (N/Am) +

Pub date: Spring 2020 + **Materials:** Finals

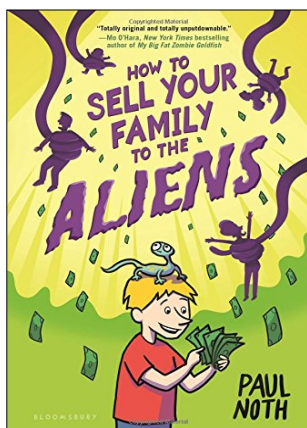
Major Mary Jennings Hegar, one of Foreign Policy Magazine's 100 Leading Global Thinkers of 2013 and one of Newsweek's 125 Women of Impact of 2012, completed pilot training by the Air National Guard at the top of her class, served three tours in Afghanistan flying Combat Search and Rescue as well as medevac missions, during which was shot down. Her actions on this mission earned her the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor Device. MJ has run for Congress and speaks publicly about both her experiences in the military and her fight for increased military readiness through equality.

Adult Edition translation sales: UK/ANZ: HarperCollins UK; Italian: Centauria; Ukraine: Bookclub Family Leisure.



HOW TO SELL YOUR FAMILY TO THE ALIENS

trilogy by Paul Noth



- + Sold at auction in a six-figure deal
- + Author a celebrated cartoonist, working with *The New Yorker* and *Saturday Night Live*
- + Books are hilarious, and perfect for reluctant readers
- + Quirky, goofy science-fiction

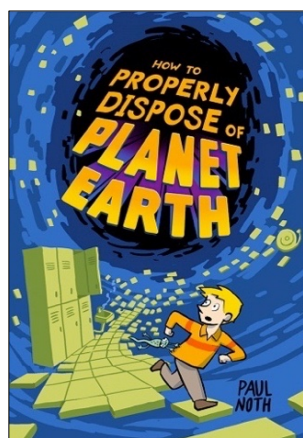
Happy Conklin Jr.'s dad is a brilliant, successful inventor of screwball products. Too bad that Hap's tyrannical Grandma is stealing all his money and lives in an enormous mansion while the rest of the family lives in the basement. When Hap sees a chance to get rid of Grandma, he takes it! But when he—oops!—sells his whole family to the aliens, he wants nothing more than to get them back. But how?! In **Book Two**, Hap wants a girl in his science class to be his lab partner but lacks the courage to even talk to her. He finds a way to overcome this fear but also, unfortunately, opens a blackhole that will swallow the solar system, unless he's able to stop it. In **Book Three**, Hap—now a prisoner of the Galactic Empire—must stop his Grandma's war before she destroys everything. He'll need the help of his lab partner and secret crush back on Earth. But first he'll have to convince her that he isn't dead!



“Strange and original with just the right amount of juvenile humor, this story features odd and endearing characters and a wonderfully weird plot.” —*School Library Journal*

"Readers will be likewise amused by the random twists, silly inventions, and frequent spot drawings and sequential panels." —*Booklist*

“Pitch perfect for middle-graders . . .” —*BCCB*



Illustrated Middle Grade Bloomsbury Children's (N/Am)

Pub date: 2019

Materials: Finished copies

Rights sold: French (Books 1-3, Bayard Jeunesse); **Italian** (Book 1, Editrice Il Castoro), **Romanian** (Books 1-3, Editura Art), **Turkish** (Book1, Epsilon)