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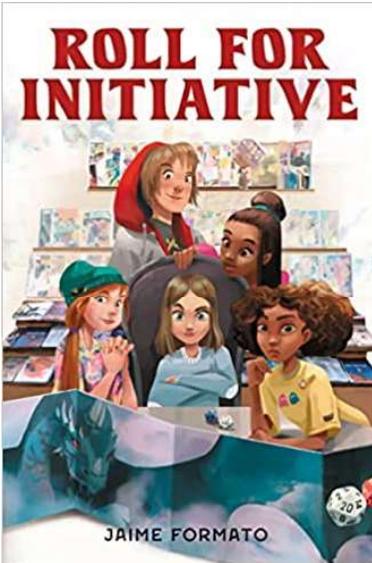
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ROLL FOR INITIATIVE
Jaime Formato



Perfect for fans of *Dungeons & Dragons*, Raina Telgemeier, and Jessica Kim, this debut middle grade novel is a upbeat and heartfelt coming-of-age story about finding your voice and believing in yourself.

Riley Henderson has never taken a bus to school in her entire life. Or made an afterschool snack, or finished her homework on her own, or prepared dinner, or—ewww—done her own laundry. That’s what her older brother Devin was for. Her single mom works crazy hours, which means Devin all but raised her, but now he’s away at college, studying at a prestigious gaming program in California, while she’s still at home in Florida. Riley’s never even made a friend on her own because she always had Devin, but new girl Lucy gives Riley no choice but to get over her shyness and fear of rejection and become friends. The best part is . . . both girls have a fascination for *Dungeons & Dragons*. In fact, that was something Riley and Devin used to do together, with Devin as the dungeon master, guiding Riley through his intricate and meticulously planned campaigns. Of course, Riley is a little nervous when Lucy suggests that she run a campaign, but for the chance at a friend, Riley’s willing to give it a shot. To her surprise, it goes really well! So well, in fact, that soon they add Hannah and Jen to their adventuring party.

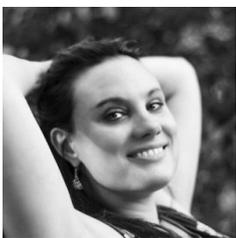
Soon Riley discovers that not only that she can function without Devin, she kind of likes it. She figures out that bus thing, totes the clothes down to the laundry room and sets up her D&D campaigns right there on the slightly suspect folding table, makes her own snacks and dinner, the whole deal. But when Devin leaves his program and returns home, it's pretty clear, even to Riley, that since he can't figure out his own life, he's going to live Riley's for her. He's even going to run her *D&D* campaigns with all his strict, no fun, no joking allowed rules. Now Riley has to figure out how to prove to him and her mom that she's got this and convince Devin he needs to go back to California to follow his dreams. It's time to *Roll for Initiative*.

Early Praise:

"A fun-filled winner, *Roll for Initiative* will appeal to gamers and non-gamers alike. Readers will root for Riley as she navigates through friendships and family while keeping her first D&D campaign on track. A fantastic reminder that everyone can use a confidence boost, even those who seemingly have it all together."—Kim Long, author of *Lexi Magill and the Teleportation Tournament*

"Formato's middle grade debut is a dazzling story about growing up and finding yourself along the way. This is the book that every D&D playing, comic book reading, gamer girl needs; I would adventure with Riley and her friends any day."—Nicole Melleby, award-winning author of *How to Become a Planet*

"Maxes out its stats in empathy, creativity, and character growth." - *Kirkus*



Jaime Formato is a third-grade teacher living in northern Florida. This is her first novel.

Running Press
320 pages
LKG Agency
Book available

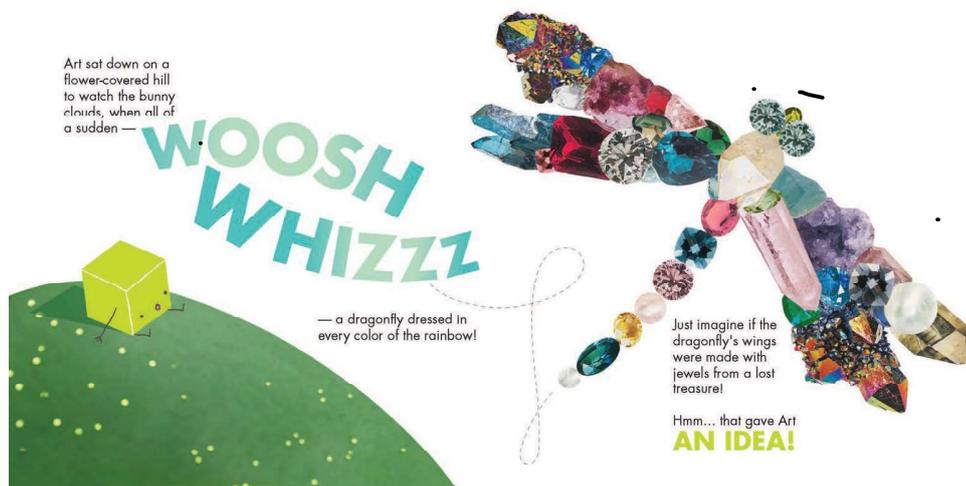
ART + JOY
Danielle Krysa

Cover
Reveal
To
Come

This is the story of two best friends, Art and Joy.

They build and create, make and imagine. Unfortunately, Art starts worrying about 'the right way' to make things (thanks to a few rude words from the dreaded Art Bully). Wanting to avoid the bully's words, Art decides there's no room for silliness, and stops spending time with Joy.

Don't worry though! They'll find each other again, because Art and Joy always have, and always will, go hand-in-hand.



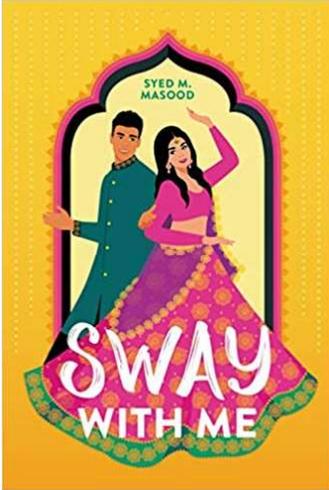
Danielle Krysa is the creator of The Jealous Curator, a highly influential contemporary art blog. Her previous books include *Creative Block*, *Collage*, *Your Inner Critic Is a Big Jerk*, *A Big Important Art Book—Now With Women*, and *How To Spot An Artist*. She lives in British Columbia, Canada.

Prestel
40 pages with 40 illustrations
Present Perfect Dept.
Manuscript/art available

World English rights: Prestel US

Rights sold to HOW TO SPOT AN ARTIST: UK/Prestel; French (Canada)/Quebec Amerique

SWAY WITH ME
Syed Masood



She's All That goes desi in this hilarious, affecting, and sweetly romantic comedy by the author of *More Than Just a Pretty Face*.

Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection!

Arsalan has learned everything he knows from Nana, his 100-year-old great-grandfather. This includes the fact that when Nana dies, Arsalan will be completely alone in the world, except for his estranged and abusive father. So he turns to Beenish, the step-daughter of a prominent matchmaker, to find him a future life partner. Beenish's request in return? That Arsalan help her ruin her older sister's wedding with a spectacular dance she's been forbidden to perform.

Despite knowing as little about dancing as he does about girls, Arsalan wades into Beenish's chaotic world to discover friends and family he never expected. And though Arsalan's old-school manners and Beenish's take-no-prisoners attitude clash every minute, they find themselves getting closer and closer - literally. All that's left to realize is that the thing they both really want is each other, if only they can get into step.

Praise:

"An evocative, charming tale of two types of families, the one you are born into and the one you choose."—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Will bring both laughter and heartache to readers. The story provides a look at how religion often defines families and how family and friends can help you stay strong and grow even when things look bleak and dire. Written with humor, this romance takes a look at how we all just want to figure out how we fit in this world."—*SLC*

"Syed Masood is my favorite YA author, and this story and these characters are exactly why. Rich with culture, touched with hilarity, immersed in heart, *Sway with Me* made me laugh one moment and wipe tears from my cheeks in the very next. Masood is an auto-buy for me."—*Erin Hahn, author of More Than Maybe and Never Saw You Coming*

"Earnest, heartfelt, and laugh-out-loud charming, *Sway with Me* is a book that will warm your heart in all the best places. A must-read for anyone who loves found families and finding love in unexpectedly perfect places."—*Emma Lord, author of Tweet Cute*

"*Sway with Me* is as big-hearted and hilarious as it is masterfully affecting. Arsalan is a loyal old soul who will steal your heart from page one as his lonely world becomes filled with found family, first love, and dance. Nothing short of magnificent."—*Nina Moreno, author of Don't Date Rosa Santos and Our Way Back to Always*



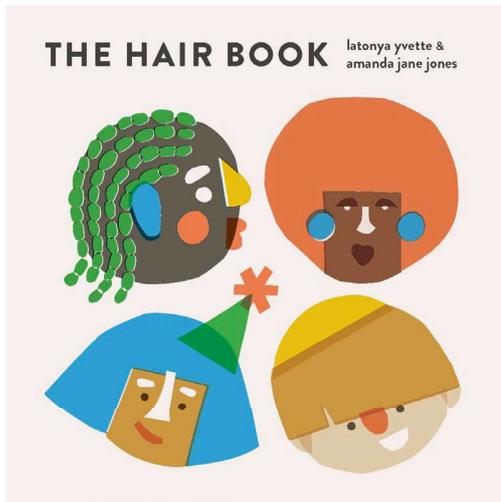
Syed Mushahid Masood grew up in Karachi, Pakistan, and currently lives in Sacramento, California, where he is a practicing attorney. He received his J.D. from the William and Mary School of Law, after attending the University of Toronto, where he studied English Literature. He wrote a few couplets in Urdu when he was a teenager, and his family still tells everyone he is an Urdu poet. He is not. His passions include good food, dress shoes, sitcoms, and books of all kinds.

Little Brown Books
336 pages
Stonesong Literary
Book available

Rights sold: UKANZ/Hodder; French/Pocket

THE HAIR BOOK

LaTonya Yvette and Amanda Jane Jones



A bold, graphic board book celebrating all types of hair.

*Covered hair,
Bun hair,
Party hair,
No matter the hair – YOU are welcome everywhere!*

With striking, colorful graphics and simple alliterative text, both editions - a board book and hardcover - features poufy hair, wavy hair, Afro hair, hair covered in a hijab, and more. A surprise mirror at the end encourages young children to reflect on their own characteristics.

The message is clear: no matter what you look like, you are beautiful, valued, and welcome everywhere.



Praise:

"Striking spreads include bold and eye-catching colors that celebrate the diversity of beauty." – *School Library Journal*, starred review



Amanda Jane Jones is a graphic designer and illustrator, and was the founding designer and co-creator of *Kinfolk*, a quarterly lifestyle magazine. Her first children's book, *Yum Yummy Yuck* (Prestel), was co-written with her husband—inspired by her three kids. She lives in the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains in Utah.

Sterling Children's Books
7" x 7" Board book
22 pages, illustrated with mirror on the last page

8" x 8" hardcover
36 pages, illustrated with no mirror
Present Perfect Dept.
Book available



LaTonya Yvette is a Brooklyn, NY-born and -based writer, creative director, and founder of LY, an eponymous lifestyle site focused on style, motherhood, culture, and wellbeing. LaTonya's first book *Woman Of Color* was published in 2019 (Abrams), and her next body of work is a collection of essays to be published by Dial Press.