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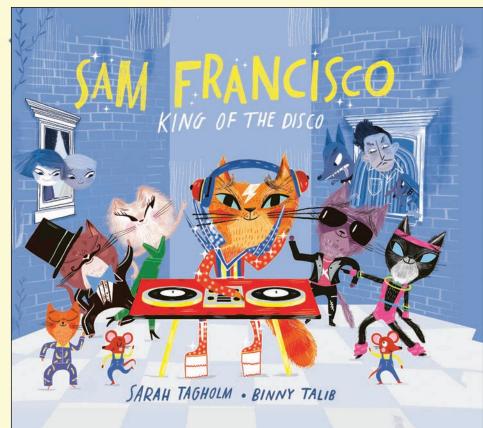
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sam Francisco, King of the Disco / 4 The Words We Share / 6 Mira and Baku / 8 Mehndi Boy / 10 Salma Writes a Book / 12 The Journey of the Ancestors' Gifts / 14 Stay Up / 18 Board Books / 24 Picture Books / 25 Middle Grade / 27 Starred and Award-Winning / 36

SAM FRANCISCO, KING OF THE DISCO

Written by SARAH TAGHOLM^{*} Illustrated by BINNY TALIB



ISBN 978-1-77321-821-2 HC Ebook also available

11" x 9.5" • 32 pages Full-color illustrations

September 19, 2023 \$18.99 US / \$23.99 CDN

Picture book Age range: 4–7 Grade range: Pre-K–Grade 2

Key words: Music / Poetry / Bullying / Resilience / Resistance

No rights available

A toe-tapping adventure celebrating optimism in the face of adversity about a community of cool cats who just want to have fun.

Superstar DJ Sam Francisco's party is keeping his neighbor Buzzkill Bill awake. Bill tries everything to shut it down—he sends his dogs, then pest control, the fire department, and the police! When Bill finally succeeds in pulling the plug, things look bleak, but luckily it's the people (and the cats) who make a party, not the fancy equipment.

Written in verse, this exuberant celebration of dance, music, and self-expression begs to be read aloud over and over. Young readers and adults alike will delight in the humor, charm, and energy of Sarah Tagholm and Binny Talib's fantastic felines led by Sam, the David Bowie of cats. Featuring a silver-foiled cover for full disco effect, readers are introduced to many musical genres, as each of Sam Francisco's adversaries are gradually won over by the beat.



SARAH TAGHOLM fell in love with books as a child, followed by dance, traveling, and tagging sea turtles! She lives with her family, including her cat, Envelope, whose mysterious nightly adventures inspired this story. She lives in the UK.

BINNY TALIB creates fantastic books for kids and fabulous wallpaper for grown-ups. Her family includes her dog, Paddington, who would love a cat disco. She lives in Australia.



Of similar interest Welcome to the Cypher 978-1-77321-563-1 HC

THE WORDS WE SHARE

Written and illustrated by JACK WONG



ISBN 978-1-77321-797-0 HC Ebook also available

8.5" x 11" • 40 pages Full-color illustrations, author's note

October 10, 2023 \$18.99 US / \$22.99 CDN

Picture book Age range: 4–7 Grade range: Pre-K–Grade 2

Key words: Communication / Family / Immigration / Hakka / Language barrier / Community / Culture / Chinese / Cantonese / Father-daughter relationship

Rights available: World excluding USA and Canada

A young girl helps her dad navigate life in a new country where she understands the language more than he does, in an unforgettable story about communication and community.

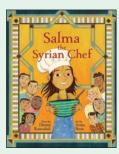
Angie is used to helping her dad. Ever since they moved to Canada, he relies on her to translate for him from English to Chinese. Angie is happy to help: when they go to restaurants, at the grocery store, and, one day, when her dad needs help writing some signs for his work.

Building off her success with her dad's signs, Angie offers her translation skills to others in their community. She's thrilled when her new business takes off, until one of her clients says he's unhappy with her work. When her dad offers to help, she can't imagine how he could. Working together, they find a surprising solution, fixing the problem in a way Angie never would have predicted.



A gorgeously illustrated picture book from up-and-coming author-illustrator Jack Wong (*When You Can Swim*, Scholastic) that is at once a much-needed exploration of the unique pressures children of immigrants often face, a meditation on the dignity of all people regardless of their differences, and a reminder of the power of empathy.

JACK WONG is based in Kjipuktuk/Halifax, Nova Scotia. Born in Hong Kong and raised in Vancouver, Jack creates stories indelibly marked by a first-generation Asian Canadian experience.



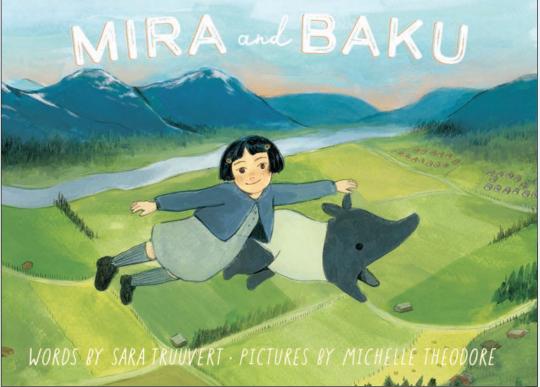
Of similar interest

Salma the Syrian Chef "This beautiful story grasps diversity, exploring resilience, love, friendship, and the meaning of home." —Kirkus Reviews, ★starred review

978-1-77321-374-3 PB 978-1-77321-375-0 HC

MIRA AND BAKU

Written by SARA TRUUVERT Illustrated by MICHELLE THEODORE





ISBN 978-1-77321-756-7 HC Ebook also available

11" x 8" • 40 pages Full-color illustrations, author's note, historical note

October 17, 2023 \$18.99 US / \$23.99 CDN

Picture book Age range: 4–7 Grade range: Pre-K–Grade 2

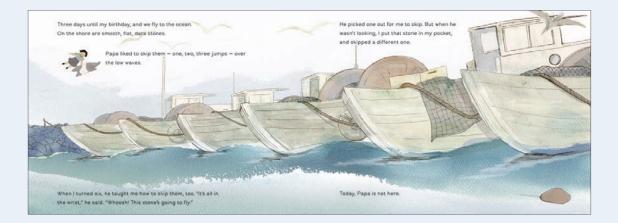
Key words: Japanese internment camps / World War II / Imagination / Family separation / Emotions

Rights available: World excluding USA and Canada

With the help of a magical friend, a young girl searches for her missing father in this poignant story set during Japanese internment in World War II.

It's a week until Mira's birthday, and she's getting worried. Where is Papa? He has never missed her birthday before. When Mira's friend Baku, a creature from Japanese folklore, offers to help, they journey over farmlands and forests, mountains and river mouths, gathering clues to Papa's whereabouts—clues that echo Mira's memories and overheard conversations in the camp where she lives with Mama.

Lushly illustrated by up-and-coming illustrator Michelle Theodore, this tender, moving picture book by debut author Sara Truuvert explores the profound impacts of family separation and the different forms comfort can take for a child processing loss.



ut then Baku has a good idea. "Tomorrow, let's look at our old house. Maybe

Further reading on Japanese internment and a note from the author add to readers' understanding of this underrepresented period of history, making it an instant classic. For fans of *Baseball Saved Us*, *Mira and Baku* is an emotional exploration of the power of imagination and hope in difficult times.

SARA TRUUVERT is a Canadian author of Japanese-Estonian descent. She grew up in Toronto and now lives in Ottawa, Ontario, where she writes everything from short fiction to poetry to science articles. *Mira and Baku* is her first picture book.

MICHELLE THEODORE is an illustrator born and raised under the prairie skies in Edmonton, Alberta. As a landlocked yonsei, she is often reminiscing about coastal summers with family, inspired by her times on beaches collecting sand dollars and eating homemade salmon jerky.





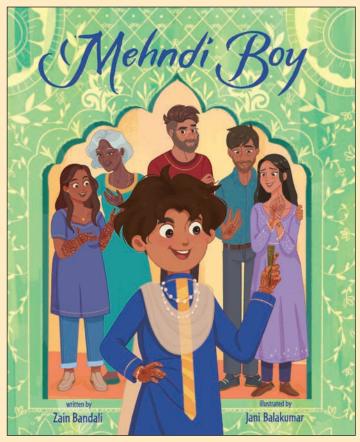
Of similar interest

Thunder and the Noise Storms 978-1-77321-558-7 HC

Abuelita and Me 978-1-77321-610-2 HC

MEHNDI BOY

Written by ZAIN BANDALI Illustrated by JANI BALAKUMAR



ISBN 978-1-77321-792-5 HC Ebook also available

6.5" X 8" • 96 pages

October 24, 2023 \$15.99 USD / \$19.99 CDN HC

Fiction Age range: 6–9 Grade range: Grades 1–4

Key words: Self-esteem / Indo East-African / Ismaili Muslim / LGBT / Creativity / Family / South Asian / Gender

Rights available: World excluding USA and Canada

An artistic, fashion-loving boy unlocks a new talent and learns to stand up for it—in this chapter book perfect for fans of the Sadiq series and Meet Yasmin!

The first time Tehzeeb tries mehndi, his passion for the art form blossoms. Soon, he's creating designs for all his friends and family, and dreams of becoming the most in-demand mehndi artist in town. So Tez is hurt and confused when his favorite uncle tells him mehndi isn't for boys. His art brings people joy. How could it be wrong? Tehzeeb doesn't want to disappoint his uncle. But when a crisis before his cousin's wedding puts his talents to the test, Tehzeeb must find the courage to be his true creative self.

Jani Balakumar's expressive, vibrant illustrations bring Tehzeeb's designs—and his community—to life. This charming, affirming story by debut author Zain Bandali will have you celebrating creativity, artistic expression, and being unapologetically yourself.



dreaming about weddings for the past few nights—of all the celebrations he'd been to, he loved weddings the most. In this one, he was wearing a royal blue kurta, a white shawl across his shoulders, and pearls around his neck. All the guests were staring at him in awe. The special outfit made him feel like the most dazzling version of himself.

Chickadee-dee-dee....

Chickadee-dee-dee...

He pictured the fancy decorations, the glittering gold jewelry, the fresh marigolds and roses, the delicious buffet food, and the bride's mehndi ... Chickadee-dee-dee-dee...

Chickadee-dee—

"Wow! You did that henna yourself?" said Parin Mami.

"What a unique design!" exclaimed Fatima Masi. "You must do my mehndi next week, beta. Jenny Bai, you've taught him well," announced Naz Bai. "I'm afraid I can't take any credit," Jenny Bai replied. "Tez learned this all by himself?"

Tehzeeb glowed with all the compliments. His uncle walked over as Jenny Bai was admiring his palm up close.



Readers can learn more about mehndi at home with activities at the end of the book.

ZAIN BANDALI is an unapologetic Ismaili Muslim queer artist of Indo-Tanzanian heritage living in Ontario, Canada. He writes on themes related to mysticism, queerness, diasporas, and where they interact. His poetry has been published in multiple journals and his spoken word has graced stages across the province. He is an avid vegetable gardener but cannot always stomach the chili peppers he grows.

JANI BALAKUMAR is a Tamil-Canadian illustrator and 2D animator that resides in Toronto, Ontario. She has a bachelor's in animation from Sheridan College where she honed her craft. Her works often have a bold palette and mixed textural elements to make the work pop off the page.





Of similar interest

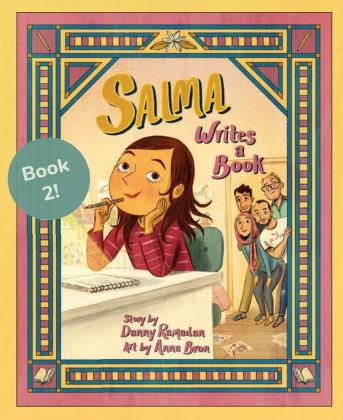
Salma Makes a Home 978-1-77321-762-8 PB 978-1-77321-761-1 HC

The Secret of the Jade Bangle 978-1-77321-716-1 PB 978-1-77321-715-4 HC

SALMA WRITES A BOOK

Written by Danny Ramadan Illustrated by Anna Bron

> Picture book charmer Salma stars in a new early chapter book series!



Charming, creative Salma takes on big feelings with even bigger ideas as she navigates life in a new country, Syrian identity, family changes, and new friendships in this engaging and heartfelt early chapter book series.

Salma is going to be a big sister! She's determined to be the best sister *ever*, so she sets out to write the ultimate guidebook to siblinghood. But the more Salma learns about siblings, the more confused she gets, especially since her mama is fighting with her own brother, Khalou Dawood, about who he loves. Can Salma figure out what it means to be a good sister before the baby arrives?

ISBN 978-1-77321-803-8 PB ISBN 978-1-77321-802-1 HC Ebook also available

6" x 7.5" • 120 pages Black-and-white illustrations, writing activity

October 3, 2023 \$7.99 US / \$9.99 CDN PB \$19.99 US / \$24.99 CDN HC

Fiction Age range: 6–9 Grade range: Grades 1-4

Key words: Family / Social and Emotional Learning / LGBT / Immigration

Rights available: World excluding USA and Canada



She swings open the door and finds her khalou on the other side. She recognizes him from photos: he is tall, with brown skin glimmering like sand on the riverbank, and wide black eyes. She jumps into his arms, and he gives her a big squeeze.

"Salma! What a big girl you are!"

"I am the tallest girl in my class!" she announces proudh

"I am sure you are also the smartest." He pats her hair.

"Dawood!" Mama passes Salma and hugs her brother. She kisses him on both cheeks, then squeezes him in for a second hug.

"It has been too long" Khalou shakes Baba's hands. The family gathers in the living room, and Salma sits right by her Khalou's side. She listens in as the family 9

"Riva," Salma savs, "do you know any authors? I need to ask them to-" "Oh my god, Salma," Riva interrupts, "Be gulet!"

"Salma and Riya!" the teacher-librarian looks disappointed. "That's enough. You should return to your homeroom.

Riva frowns at Salma as she closes her novel and sets it on the librarian's table. Salma follows her, her eves locked on the ground. Everyone

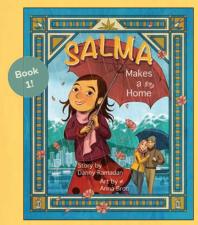
stares at them as they leave.

Ms. Singh waves them into their classroom, then returns to her lesson preparations. Riya is mad. She gives Salma her back.

"I am sorry I got us in trouble, Riya," Salma apologizes. Riva looks back, rolls her eves, then sighs when she sees the look on Salma's face.



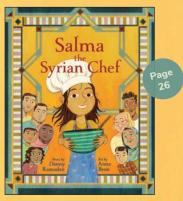
Available Now!



SALMA MAKES A HOME

Salma's dad is finally joining the family in their new home! But what if Baba misses Syria so much that he decides to go back?

Book 1: Salma Makes a Home ISBN 978-1-77321-762-8 PB ISBN 978-1-77321-761-1 HC

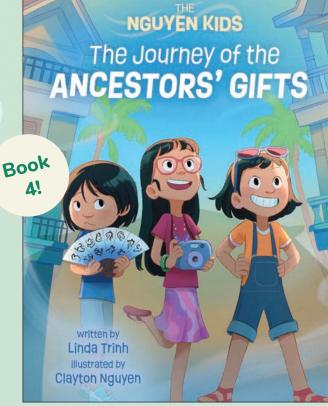


Over 17 awards for Salma the Syrian Chef!



Written by Linda Trinh Illustrated by Clayton Nguyen

An early chapter book series about siblings, social justice, and the supernatural.



October 31, 2023 Book 4: The Journey of the Ancestors' Gifts ISBN 978-1-77321-813-7 PB ISBN 978-1-77321-812-0 HC

5.5" x 7.25" • 120–128 pages Black-and-white illustrations, author's note, character profiles

\$7.99 US / \$8.99 CDN PB \$19.99 US / \$24.99 CDN HC Ebook also available

Fiction

Age range: 6–9 Grade range: Grades 1–4 Key words: Family / Identity / Culture / Racism / Sexism / Gender

Rights available: World excluding USA and Canada

Join The Nguyen Kids Anne, Liz, and Jacob, as they explore their Vietnamese culture and identity, and look to unlock the mysterious meanings behind the gifts left to them by their beloved Grandma Nội.

THE JOURNEY OF THE ANCESTORS' GIFTS

The Nguyen kids are going on vacation! It's their first time in Vietnam and staying in Grandma Nội's childhood home, so they should be excited. As soon as they enter the house, though, something doesn't feel right. Why is the door to the ancestors' room always closed? And why can't they connect with Grandma Nội using their gifts, the way they can at home?

Available Now!

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THE SECRET OF THE JADE BANGLE

Eldest sibling Anne used to love ballet– until her new teacher starts treating her differently than the others. Will Anne be able to stand up to her?



NEUVENKIS The Power of the PEARL EARRINGS

THE POWER OF THE PEARL EARRINGS

Middle sibling Liz doesn't understand why the new boy in school doesn't like her. How does she find her own inner power to overcome this?

THE MYSTERY OF THE PAINTED FAN

Jacob, the baby, is tired of always being told what to do. Can his mysterious painted fan help him find his voice?





Nội died in early spring but we re. Today is the new moon, the wake offerings on her altar. It's est child (Tm nine!) to clean the ar dining room. As 1 wipe down re of Grandma Nội's smiling face, ward to offering days. They make

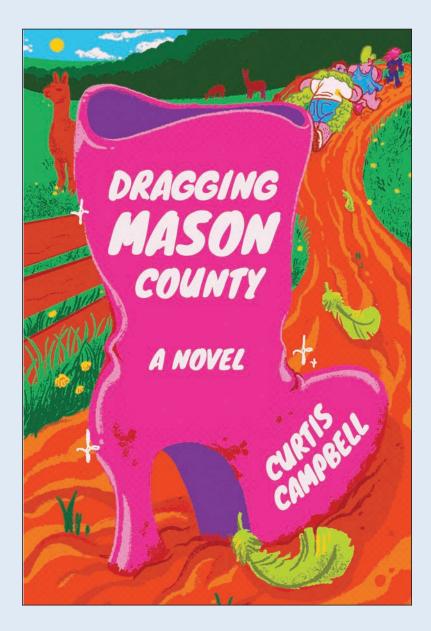
there are three ceramic bowls hree cups of black tea, barbecue lasagna, apples, and oranges. We rs to share in our meal. rr-old sister Elizabeth brings out

-old sister Elizabeth brings out I I line them up neatly next to



DRAGGING MASON COUNTY

Written by CURTIS CAMPBELL



A laugh-out-loud YA debut that examines the realities of small-town queer life and celebrates the transformative power of drag perfect for fans of RuPaul's Drag Race and Pumpkin.

Excerpt:

"This show is happening, Peter," Alan declares. "And you just said that you're the guy making it happen."

Tilly pops an eyebrow, waiting for me to blow him off. But I don't. I don't do anything, actually. I stand there weighing my options. One of the things about living in the middle of nowhere is that awkward silences are often punctuated by actual crickets . . . Maybe this is about more than just drag. Maybe the kind of guy who would throw Mason County's first Drag Extravaganza can't be so bad.

"Yes," I say. "And."

ISBN 978-1-77321-787-1 HC Ebook also available

6" x 9" • 220 pages

October 3, 2023 \$19.99 US / \$24.99 CDN HC

Fiction Age range: 14+ Grade range: Grade 9+

Key words: LGBTQ / Drag / Rural / Drag performance / Small town / Community / Homophobia / Humor / Friendship

Rights available: World excluding USA and Canada

Peter Thompkins needs a public image overhaul. After a tense confrontation with one of the few other queer kids in his small-town high school, rumors about him are becoming more elaborate by the day. Meanwhile, his best friend Alan (aka teen drag queen Aggie Culture) is throwing Mason County's debut Drag Extravaganza. Although Peter is a self-described "dragnostic," he decides to help produce the show, hoping to prove that he isn't a self-hating gay. In the process, he finds himself facing down angry guard dogs, angrier bigots, and a very high-strung church lady. As backlash grows, Peter begins to wonder whether he's setting fire to his already damaged reputation and if his friendship with Alan will survive past curtain call.

At turns touching, sharply funny, and a little absurd, *Dragging Mason County* explores the pains and pleasures of queer community through one teen's journey to self-acceptance.

CURTIS CAMPBELL is a Toronto-based writer born and raised in rural Ontario. You can sometimes find him in drag as Alanis Percocet.





Of similar interest

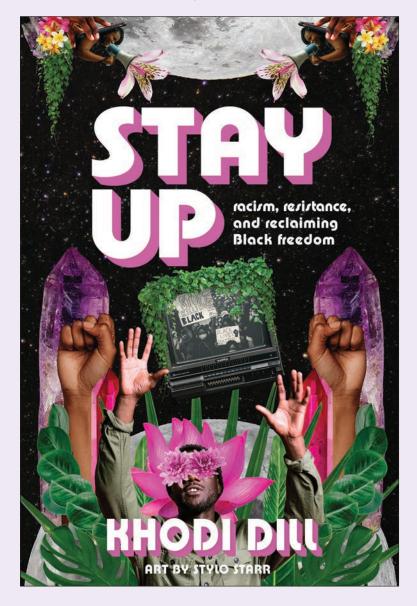
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Fire Song 978-1-55451-977-4 PB 978-1-55451-978-1 HC 978-177321-292-0 Audio

STAY UP

racism, resistance, and reclaiming Black freedom

Written by KHODI DILL Illustrated by STYLO STARR



An incisive, innovative, and inviting take on fighting oppression and fighting for racial justice.



ISBN 978-1-77321-808-3 PB ISBN 978-1-77321-807-6 HC Ebook also available

6" x 9" • 360 pages Black-and-white illustrations

October 17, 2023 \$14.99 US / \$18.99 CDN PB \$23.99 US / \$29.99 CDN HC

Non-fiction Age range: 14+ Grade range: Grade 8+

Key words: Anti-racism / Black joy / Identity / Intersectionality / Memoir / Spirituality

Rights available: World excluding USA and Canada

Racism is a real and present danger. But how can you fight it if you don't know how it works or where it comes from? Using a compelling mix of memoir, cultural criticism, and anti-oppressive theory, Khodi Dill breaks down how white supremacy functions in North America and gives readers tools to understand how racism impacts their lives. From dismantling internalized racism, decolonizing schools, joining social justice movements and more, Dill lays out paths to personal liberation and social transformation.

Vibrant, dramatic collages by stylo starr complement Dill's propulsive voice. Fueled by joy and hope as much as by rage and sorrow, this groundbreaking book empowers racialized young people to be confident in their identities and embrace the fullness of their futures.

KHODI DILL is a Bahamian-Canadian writer of everything from rap songs to spoken word poetry to children's books, including *Welcome to the Cypher* and *Little Black Lives Matter*. He is a practicing anti-racist educator and a sought-after public speaker on issues of social justice, identity, and education. Khodi lives in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

STYLO STARR is a Jamaican-Canadian collage artist whose work centers nature, fantasy, and notions of the Afrofuture. She is an emerging curator and arts educator with interests in exploring hand-cut collage as a grounding and healing creative modality. stylo lives and works in her hometown of Hamilton, Ontario.



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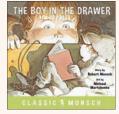
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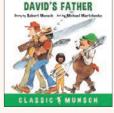


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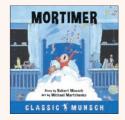


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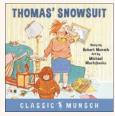
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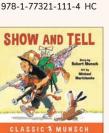
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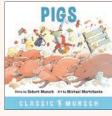
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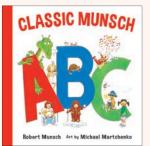
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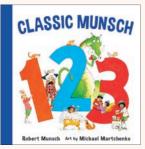
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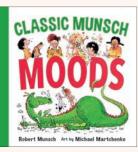
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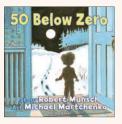
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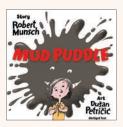
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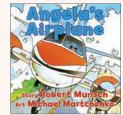
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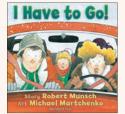


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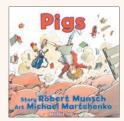
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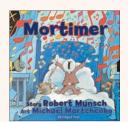
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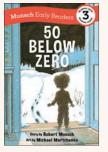
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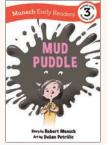
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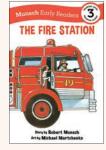


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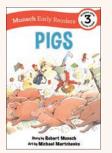


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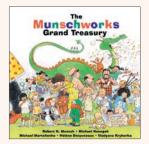
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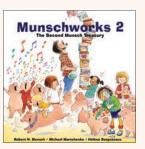
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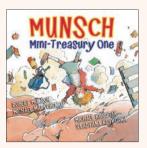
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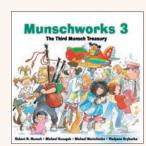
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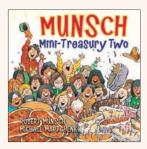
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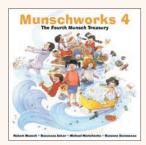
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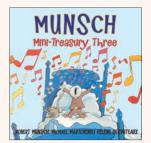
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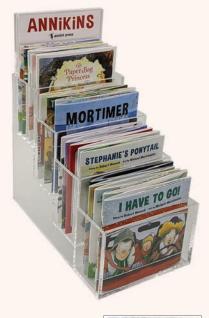
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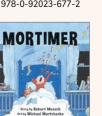
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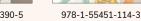










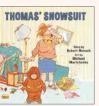








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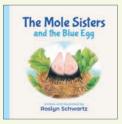
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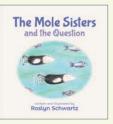




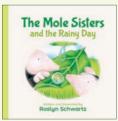
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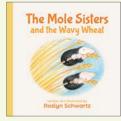
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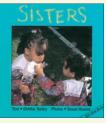
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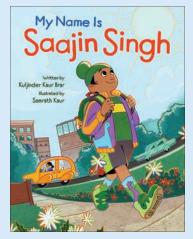


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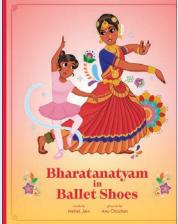


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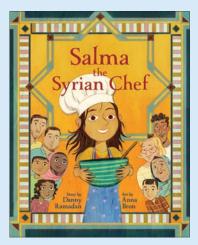
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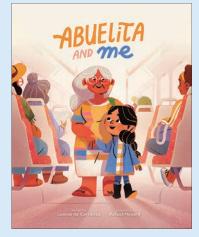
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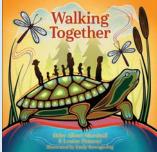
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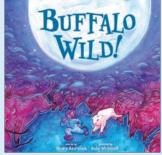
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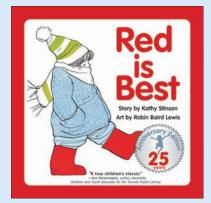


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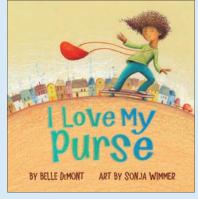
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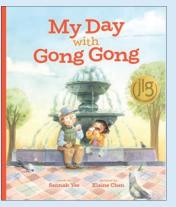
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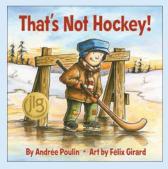
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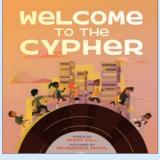
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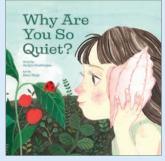
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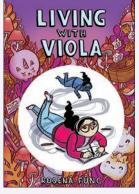
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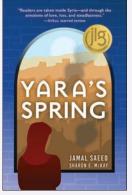
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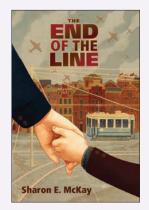
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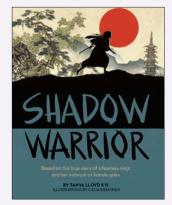
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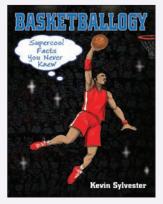


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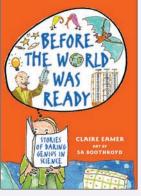


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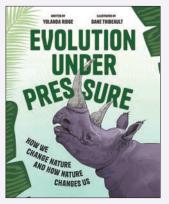
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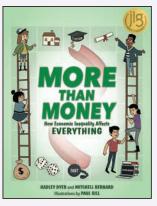
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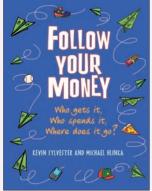
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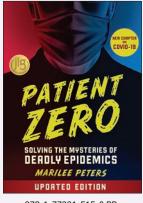
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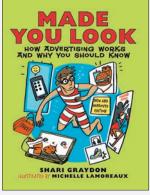


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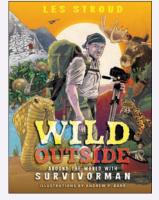


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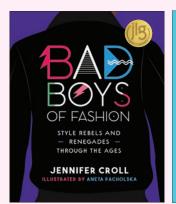


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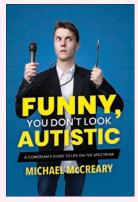


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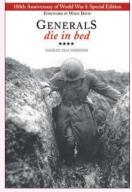
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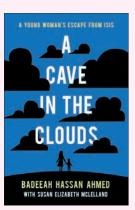
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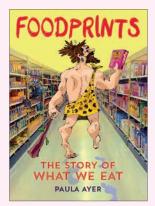
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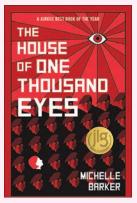
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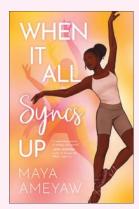
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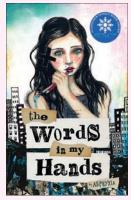
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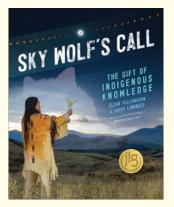


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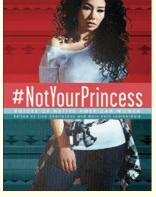


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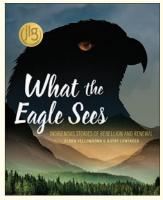
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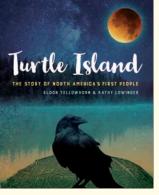
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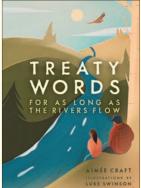
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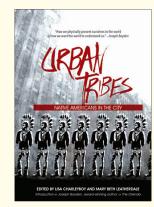
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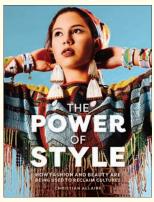
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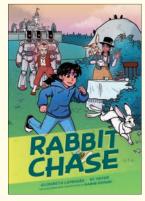
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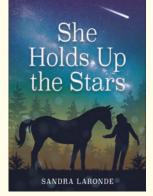


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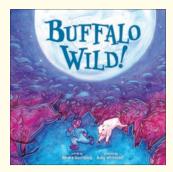
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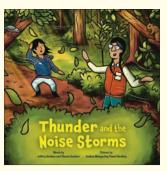
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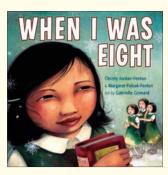
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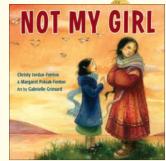
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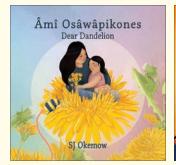
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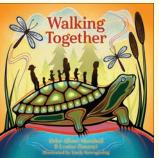
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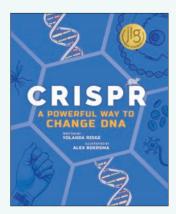


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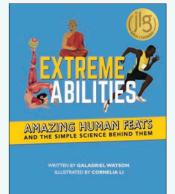


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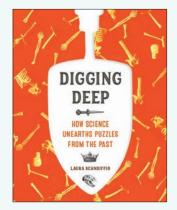
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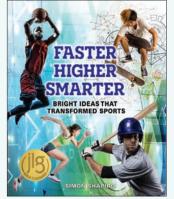
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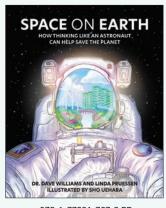
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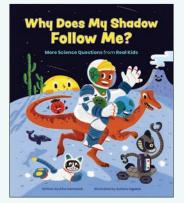
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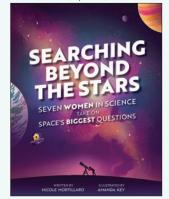
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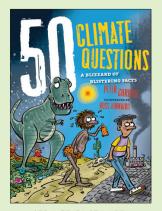


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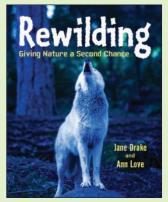


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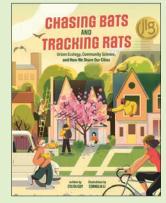
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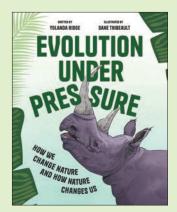
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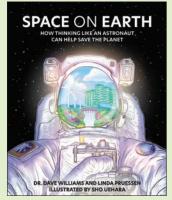
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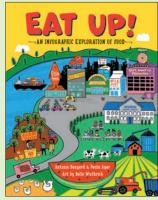
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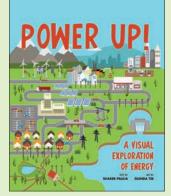
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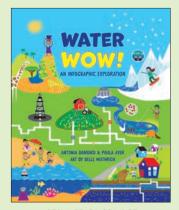
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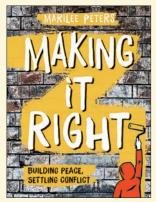


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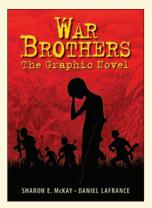
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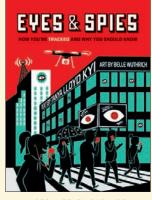
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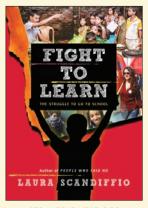
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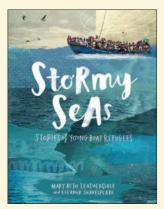
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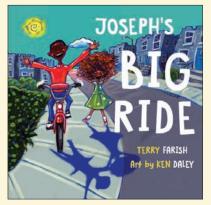
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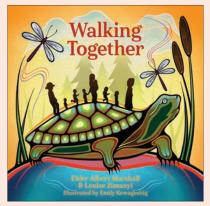
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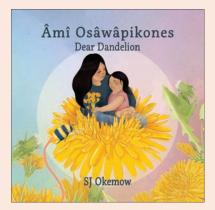
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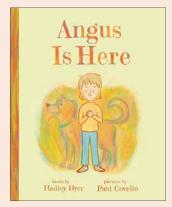
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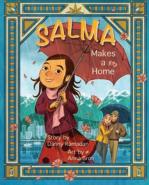
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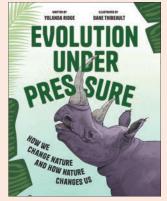


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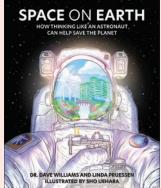




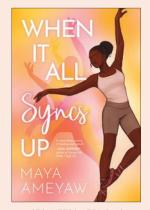
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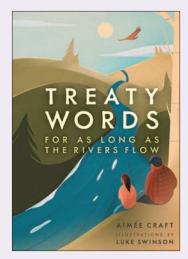


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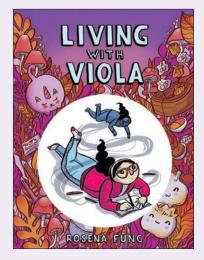
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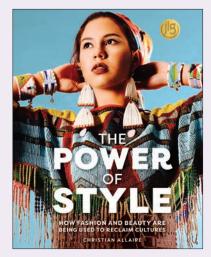


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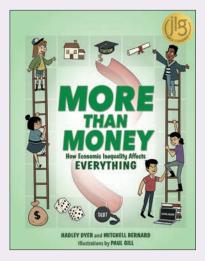
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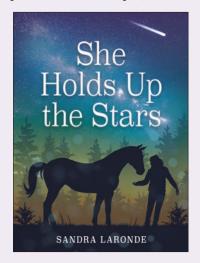


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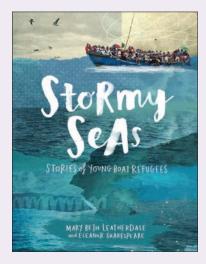
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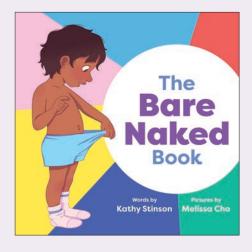


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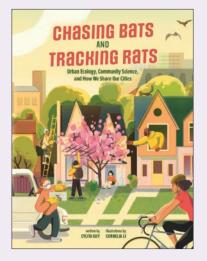
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