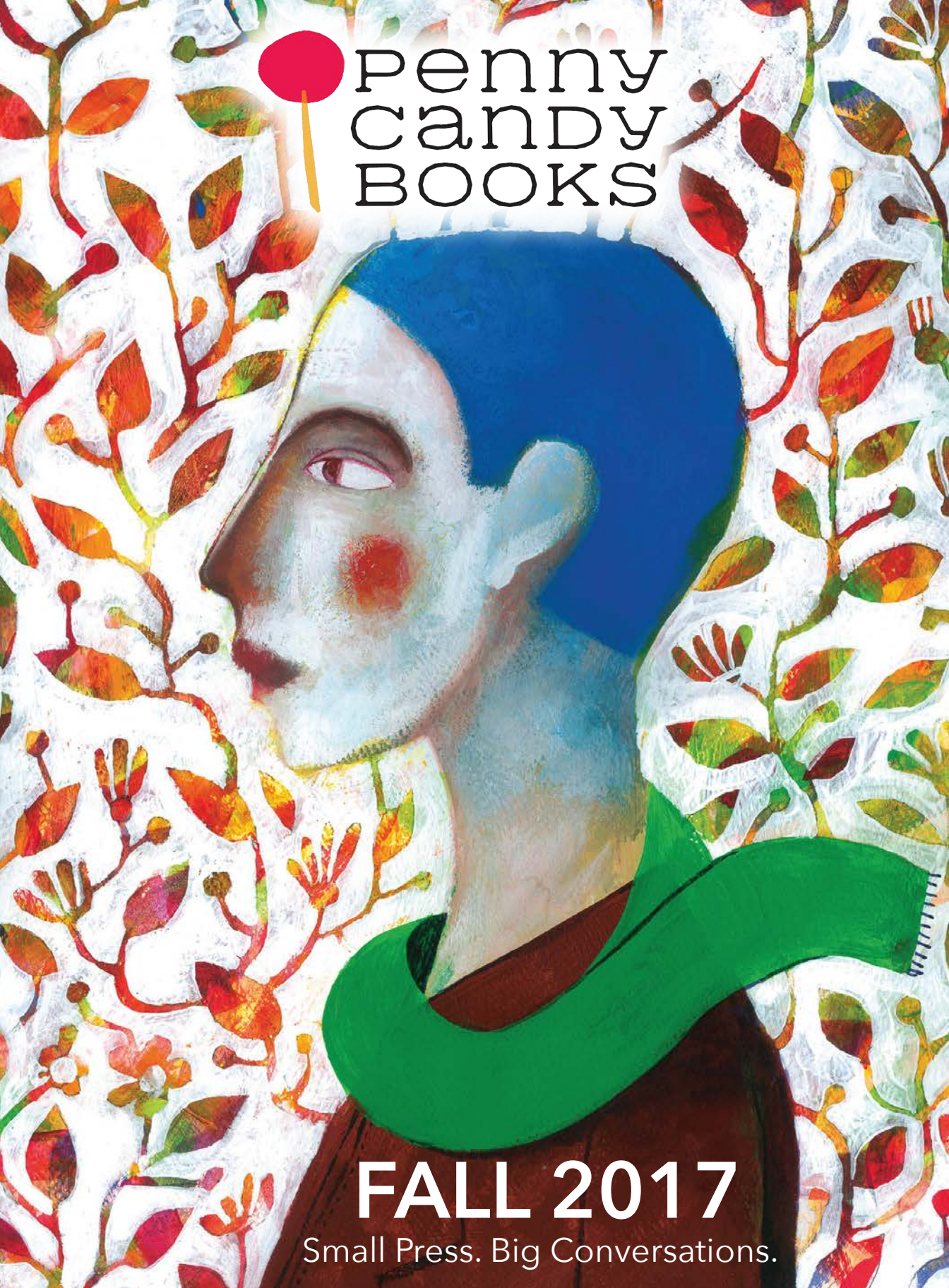




penny
candy
BOOKS



FALL 2017

Small Press. Big Conversations.



Dear Reader,

Alexis and I started Penny Candy Books in 2015 because we wanted to make a difference with our time on this planet. We want this country to be a better place, a place that embraces the best parts of our humanity—kindness, inclusion, complex thinking, global citizenship.

We're all given our tools; we can all use our talents for the greater good. We're two poets. We believe in the power of language; we believe in sharing the possibilities of language with kids, in opening the eyes, minds, and hearts of our children so that they do better than we've done. Books that cherish diversity, in the hands of all children, will change the world.

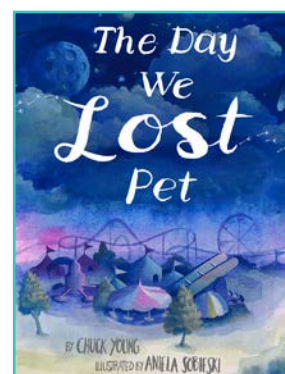
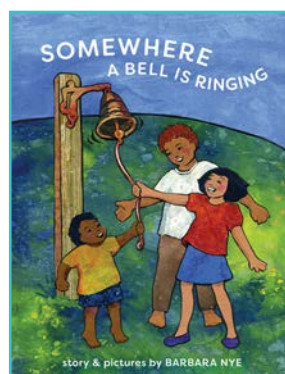
Our motto for 2017 is "small press, big conversations." Our current and forthcoming titles help children and their adults tap into and navigate important and timely topics, such as:

- civil rights
- girl power
- persistence in the face of adversity and aggression
- environmental awareness
- adoption
- loss and grief
- questioning the status quo
- challenging stereotypes
- growing up without a father
- deportation
- beauty in everyday moments

Because these topics (and others like them) deserve to be talked about as widely as possible, starting in April 2017, we are making our titles available in both print and electronic editions.

Thank you for supporting Penny Candy Books through our first season of books. Here's to another season of big conversations through thought-provoking children's literature!

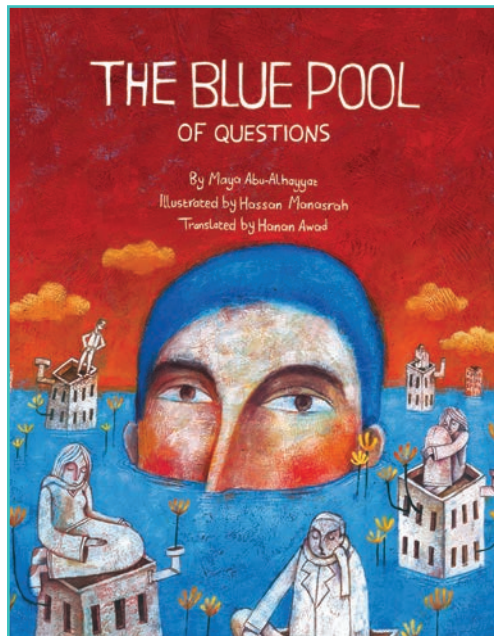
Sincerely,
Chad and Alexis





THE BLUE POOL OF QUESTIONS

A tale that asks readers to take comfort in questions versus easy answers
written by Maya Abu-Alhayyat, illustrated by Hassan Manasrah,
translated by Hanan Awad



Winner of a 2016 Etisalat Award for
Arabic Children's Literature

A man who doesn't quite fit in arrives in a city full of busy people who don't have much time for his weird songs, flower arrangements, and especially...his questions! One day, he asks so many questions that they form a giant pool in the middle of the city that stops everyone in their tracks. The man gathers up the courage to dive into the pool looking for answers, but what will he find under all that water?

Through award-winning illustrations and poetic language, this tale underscores the importance of curiosity, the necessity of asking questions, and the courage required to break free from the status quo.

Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes /
Values & Virtues
Ages 5 & up
6.5 x 8.5 - 44 pages
ISBN: 978-0-9987999-0-2 (hardcover)
978-0-9972219-8-5 (paperback)
Hardcover \$16.95
Softcover with French flaps \$13.95

“

**So the man put on his yellow shorts and leaped into the pool.
He swam to a place where there was no summer or winter,
no spring or fall. Where there were no questions and no answers.
Where everything outside the pool seemed small.**

”

Maya Abu-Alhayyat is an award-winning Palestinian novelist, poet, and children's book writer. Since 2013 Maya has worked as the director of the Palestinian Writing Workshop in Birzeit. She currently lives in Jerusalem with her husband and children.



Hassan Manasrah is a visual artist, illustrator, and comic creator. From 2008 to 2010, he worked as assistant art director for the animated cartoon series Pink Panther & Pals. Since 2010, he has illustrated 25 children books. He splits his time between Amman & Doha.



“Maya Abu-Alhayyat's haunting, evocative text and Hassan Manasrah's exquisitely gorgeous art combine to make a book worth holding very close. Give it to all your friends, big and little. We meet a man who lives his whole life with questions, then simply dives into them. He reminds us of the people we love most. He is the sea and the sky. He is Palestine and the United States and anywhere else you ever loved that did not quite live up to Best Dreams of Justice and Fairness.”

—Naomi Shihab Nye, acclaimed poet & author of Jane Addams Children's Book Award winner, HABIBI

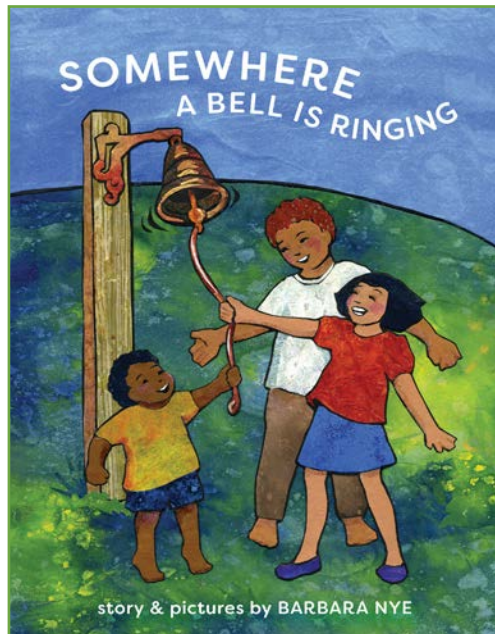
Hanan Awad, known to most as Debwanina, is a Palestinian-American living in Edmond, Oklahoma. Debwanina is an established street photographer selected by well-known Palestinian journalist and photographer Osama Silwadi to be a member of The Arab Photo Agency.





SOMEWHERE A BELL IS RINGING

An environmental lullaby written and illustrated by Barbara Nye



Poetry / Bedtime & Dreams /
Nature & the Natural World
Ages 4 & up
6.5 x 8.5 - 48 pages
ISBN: 978-0-9987999-2-6 (hardcover)
\$16.95

With her attention-grabbing, hand-painted paper collages and rhyming couplets, Nye's bedtime story asks readers to see themselves as a part of the global ecosystem and urges us to remember that we're all connected on our one-and-only planet.

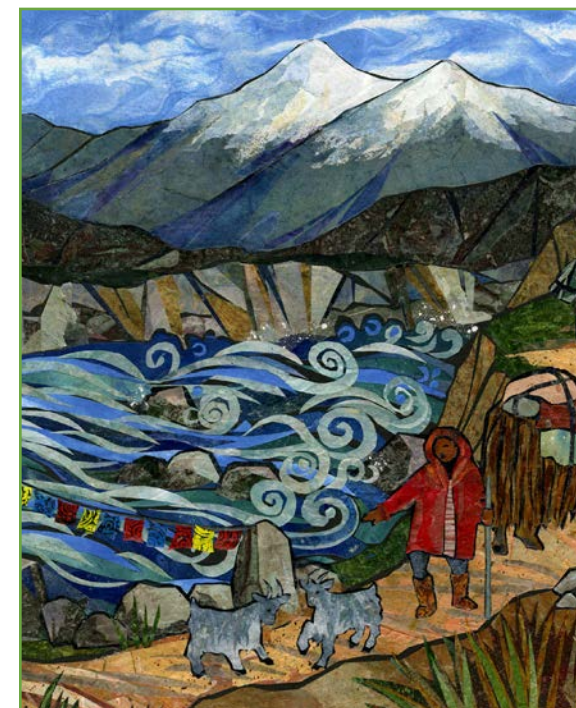


“

***Somewhere far across the world in brilliant morning sun
A bell is ringing in the square; the day has just begun.***

”

Barbara Nye is originally from Cyclone, Texas. Her travels in many countries and her experiences living in South America and Canada have had a strong influence on her artwork. She has an honours degree in Spanish and Latin American studies from the University of Texas at Austin and is fluent in Spanish. Barbara has lived in Australia for over 25 years, has been an Australian citizen since 1992, and raised her three children there.



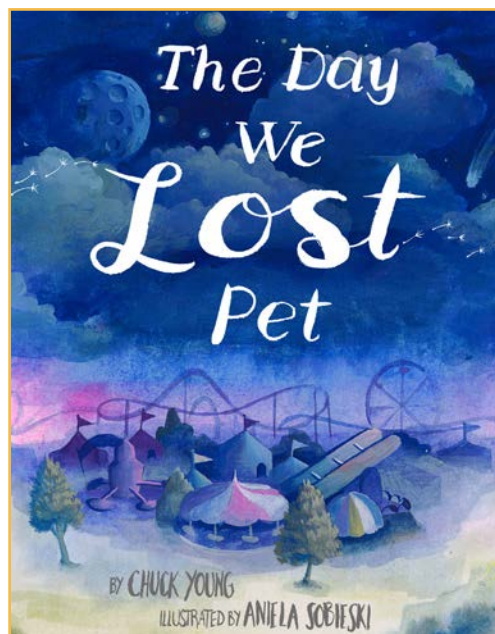
Barbara's Unique Process

Barbara Nye's art is characterized by bold line and a vivid palette, and by her signature surface treatment developed over many years of exploration with a wide range of materials and methods. Barbara is strongly influenced by the beauty and endless inspiration of the natural world. Her work embraces landscape, object, and human experience, and her inspiration rises from all of these sources. She offers the viewer a window into her aesthetic approach with subject matter that is accessible and familiar with a fresh, whimsical spirit. A self-taught artist, Barbara uses a unique method that has evolved through an enthusiastic willingness to test and adapt method and medium. Her art-making process is the synthesis of her skills as a colorist, painter, and innovator. Employing her expertise as a textile artist she also uses machine embroidery over the hand-painted papers in many of her works. Barbara believes art should have an element of fun, both for the creator and for the viewer, and hopes that her works can give joy to those who view it.



THE DAY WE LOST PET

A family mourns the death of Pet in this story by Chuck Young, illustrated by Aniela Sobieski



Pets / Death & Dying / Family
Ages 6 & up

6.5 x 8.5 - 56 pages

ISBN: 978-0-9987999-3-3 (hardcover)

978-0-9972219-9-2 (paperback)

Hardcover \$16.95

Softcover with French flaps \$13.95

Part creation myth, part fairytale, THE DAY WE LOST PET tells the story of a balloon family that comes together to mourn the death of their beloved Pet. The balloon characters in THE DAY WE LOST PET harness the language of science and nature in order to understand one of life's most difficult moments.



Chuck Young lives and dads in his hometown of Clinton, Massachusetts. He was in a touring emo band, Orange Island, in the early 2000s and, more recently, managing editor of theEEEL by tNY.Press (a former channel of the Los Angeles Review of Books). He has published short fiction and poetry in various journals online and in print. This is his first book.



Aniela Sobieski is an artist from Minnesota. She earned a BFA in painting from the University of Wisconsin--Madison and an MFA from Syracuse University. Her artwork has been exhibited and collected both nationally and internationally. The Day We Lost Pet is her debut as a children's book illustrator. She lives with her husband and two-year-old daughter in St. Paul.



"As a doctor of veterinary medicine who deals with grief over the loss of pets on a daily basis, I found this book to be insightful, poignant, and uplifting ... I love the hopefulness of the ending with its possibility that the spirit of the pet could manifest in some new form or life and that Baby will continue to take small breaths of her dear pet forever."

—Tamara L. Smith, DVM



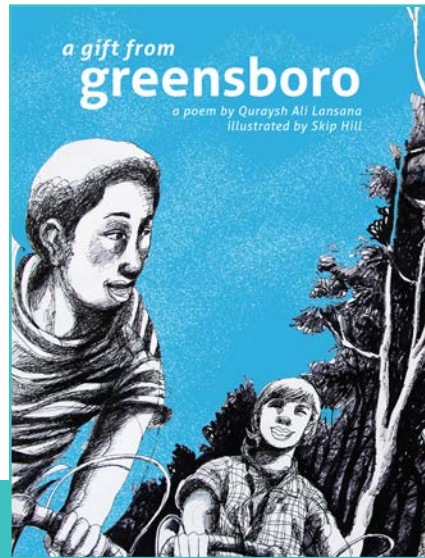
“

In that vast expanse, you will learn that forever can be its own kind of home.

”

A GIFT FROM GREENSBORO

A picture book about friendship in the decade after the Civil Rights Movement
written by acclaimed poet Quraysh Ali Lansana, illustrated by Skip Hill



Two boys in the 70s, a white kid and a black kid, eat together at the Woolworth lunch counter, only vaguely aware of the struggle a decade before that allowed them to finally sit together. Hill's illustrations depict the boys' friendship alongside scenes of the famed Greensboro Four—four college students who had the courage to sit down at a lunch counter, enduring the abuse that would ensue, in 1960—so that we see, layer by layer, the how history affects our lives.

Lansana's moving, semi-autobiographical poem about a friendship that survives the growing complexities of adulthood ..."
—Chicago Tribune

Poetry/Civil Rights/Friendship
Ages 5 & up
6.5 x 8.5 - 48 pages
ISBN: 978-0-9972219-1-6
Softcover with French flaps
\$13.95

“
**we dared lunch counters innocently
we laughed in the face of history**
”

Quraysh Ali Lansana is the author of eight poetry books, three textbooks, three children's books; editor of ten anthologies; and coauthor of a book of pedagogy. He is a faculty member of the Creative Writing Program of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.



Skip Hill was born in Texas and lives in Oklahoma. Hill's body of art is comprised of illustrations, murals, collage paintings, and drawings that weave a rich tapestry of styles, languages, and philosophies rooted in cultures around the world.



THE HUNT

Part girl-power, part cautionary tale in a wordless picture book
by French illustrator Margaux Othats

THE HUNT depicts a young girl who builds and rebuilds a rock sculpture despite the efforts of two hunters to shoot her creation to bits. The girl persists, her sculpture taking shape and becoming a testament to the creative spirit and a condemnation of violence. Originally published in France and shortlisted for The Picture Book Prize at the Montreuil Children's Book Fair in 2014.



Girls & Women/Self-Esteem & Self-Reliance/Violence
Ages 5 & up
11.25 x 6.25 - 36 pages
ISBN: 978-0-9972219-0-9
Hardcover
\$16.95



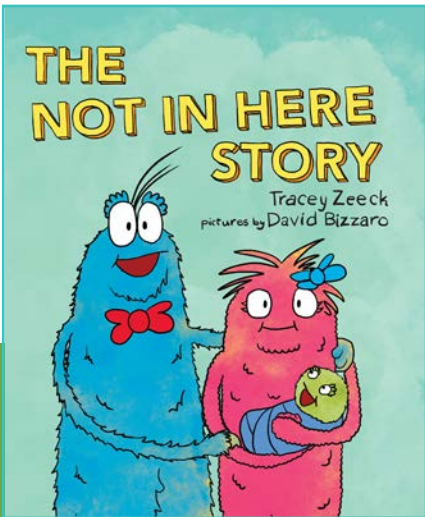
“A simple story with a powerful
anti-violence message.”
—Kirkus Reviews

Margaux Othats is a French author-illustrator born in 1989. THE HUNT, as La chasse (Éditions Magnani), was shortlisted for The Picture Book Prize at the Montreuil Children's Book Fair in 2014. Othats' second book, Un jour dehors, was published in April 2016, also by Éditions Magnani. Othats' illustrations have appeared in various magazines and journals, including *The New York Times*.



THE NOT IN HERE STORY

An adoption story with heart and gumption
by Tracey Zeeck and puppeteer, David Bizzaro



In this heartwarming adoption story, the Seeks set out to start a family but soon discover it's not going to be easy. So they embark on a journey that takes them through the desert, mountains, and jungle only to find that they didn't have to travel so far and so wide to find a child to love after all.

"Adoptive parents who experience the painful blow of infertility prior to adopting often have the difficult task of explaining to their children about the process that led them to adopt. THE NOT IN HERE STORY may make that conversation a bit easier."
—Reader's Digest

Adoption/Family/Parents
Ages 3 & up
6.5 x 8.5 - 40 pages
ISBN: 978-0-9972219-2-3
Softcover with French flaps
\$13.95

**Something was missing. Something important.
Someone important.**

Tracey Zeeck was born in Texas and raised in Oklahoma City, where she currently owns a boutique public relations firm specializing in clients with good business practices and better stories to tell. She and her husband were lucky enough to become parents through adoption in November 2007. THE NOT IN HERE STORY is the ever-evolving origin tale of her little family.



David Bizzaro is a Puppeteer, Illustrator, and Funny Video Maker living in NYC. When David is not making puppets or silly videos, he is spending time with his wife Cassie and his cat Rita. Or he is making more puppets. He might have too many.



NUVEAU: THE FUTURE OF PATTERNS

A coloring book by Tiffany McKnight

Bustling with energy and movement, the patterns in NUVEAU fuse African textile art with Art Nouveau motifs for an inspiring new coloring experience.

NUVEAU is a Caring Communities book! A share of profits for Caring Communities titles go to community-centered nonprofit organizations. NUVEAU's partnership is with SixTwelve, a 501c3 community education center in Oklahoma City, OK, dedicated to creativity and sustainability.



"Tiffany has created a blueprint for tapping into your creative side with her gorgeous, soporific patterns."
—Grace Gordon, *Savoir Flair*

Tiffany McKnight was born in Miami, Florida, and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She received her BFA in Studio Art from the University of Oklahoma in 2012. Her patterns have been published on the labels of certain flavors of San Francisco's Clearly Kombucha and on luxury wallpaper. Tiffany was recently named a 2016 Angel Award recipient. The Angel Award acknowledges unsung heroes who have effected positive change in the lives of others.



Coloring Books/Activity Books/Patterns
All ages
8 x 8.5 - 40 pages
ISBN: 978-0-9972219-3-0
Softcover
\$19.95

A LOOK AHEAD

SPRING 2018

Tony Medina’s *THIRTEEN WAYS OF LOOKING AT A BLACK BOY* depicts Black and Brown boys in full, three-dimensional light that challenges tired stereotypes and celebrates everyday life.

Tony Medina, two-time winner of the Paterson Prize for Books for Young People (*DESHAWN DAYS* and *I AND I*; *BOB MARLEY*), is the author/editor of eighteen books for adults and young readers.

With gentle, lyrical language, Sydel Rosenberg’s *H IS FOR HAIKU: A TREASURY OF HAIKU FROM A TO Z* invites children (and their parents) to slow down, linger, and pay attention to the moments we often overlook.

Sydell Rosenberg (1929-1996) lived, wrote, and taught in New York City. Syd was a charter member of the Haiku Society of America in 1968 and served as HSA’s Secretary in 1975.

Samantha Thornhill’s *A CARD FOR MY FATHER* is book 1 of a trilogy of picture books exploring the lasting effects, big and small, of a father’s incarceration on his first-grade daughter, Flora.

Samantha Thornhill is a poet, children’s author, and educator who wrote the poem for the celebrated picture book *ODETTA: QUEEN OF FOLK*.

Mariana Llanos’s bilingual picture book, *LUCA’S BRIDGE/EL PUENTE DE LUCA*, tells the emotional story of a boy coming to terms with his family’s deportation from America to Mexico.

Born in Peru to two journalists, Maria Llanos studied theater at the prestigious Cuatro Tablas school in Lima. She has published seven children’s books in English and Spanish.

ORDERING INFORMATION

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