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# **Editor's Note**

Dear Reader,

Books help children connect to the world and help them understand the world around them. Books also help children understand different perspectives while also learning about different people, cultures, and countries.

Children learn so much from books, so they need to see characters that look like them and talk like them. but they may question their identity when they do not see themselves in these books. That's why I always believe that representation matters in children's books, and at Kidliomag, we always try to incorporate books and activities that promote love, peace, diversity, and inclusion.

I hope you all will like this edition, and please share your feedback at kidliomag@gmail.com.

Happy Reading!

**Dhruvin Dharmendra** 

# DHRUVIN **DHARMENDRA**



# THE ADVENTURES OF PRINCESS ANYAH OF ANTIBARBA THE FISHING EXPEDITION

# Cover Story

# Q: First tell us something about yourself?

My name is Eldonie Mason and I am an entertainment, business and fashion attorney and entrepreneur. I immigrated to the U.S. from my native Caribbean Island of Antigua to pursue the American dream. I founded the law firm Mason Firm, LLC in 2007 and media company, Predestined Media, LLC in 2020.

#### Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

I have always been interested in writing since high school but never thought to pursue it as a career. In college, I took a creative writing course because I was told it would make me a better legal writer. A few years ago, I took a romance writing course and wrote the first ten chapters of my novel – it is a work in progress.

#### Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

Three years ago, my five-year-old niece told me that she could not be a princess because all the princesses were white with long hair. My heart broke. Who told her such a thing? This conversation led me to write her a story about a Black princess with short hair who goes on adventures. That story is now a children's book, The Adventures of Princess Anyah of Antibarba, which was released in March 2022 on Amazon in e-book, paperback and hardcover.

#### Q: Tell us something more about your books?

The Adventures of Princess Anyah of Antibarba: The Fishing Expedition is Book 1 in the series and tells the tale of Princess Anyah, a fun-loving, six-year-old who lives with her family in a palace on the tropical island of Antibarba located in the Caribbean. In this book, she goes on her first big adventure, a fishing expedition, with her dad, King Ananda.





# Q: Why do you choose kids as your reader? is there any specific reason?

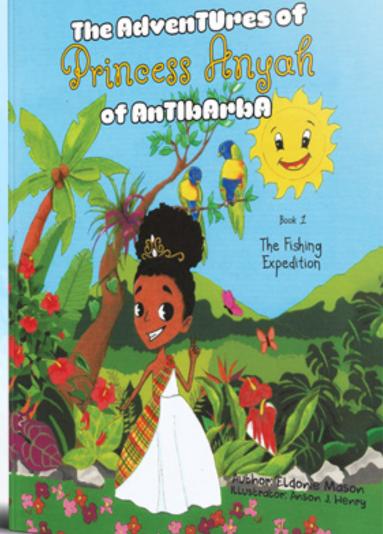
Representation matters and if little girls like my niece can see themselves as princesses, they will not feel less than.

## Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

My niece loves to read. When I took her to the library, I noticed that most children's books with Black characters dealt with slavery, civil rights or race. I was hard pressed to find books where Black children were just having fun. I wanted to change the narrative and when my niece told me she could not be a princess, I had a light bulb moment and found my story arc and characters.

# Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

I had been complaining for years about the lack of diverse content. One day, I decided to stop complaining, take action and write a diverse children's book. One person can make a difference and that person could be you!



# COURTNEY DAVIS & LESLIE HERNANDEZ

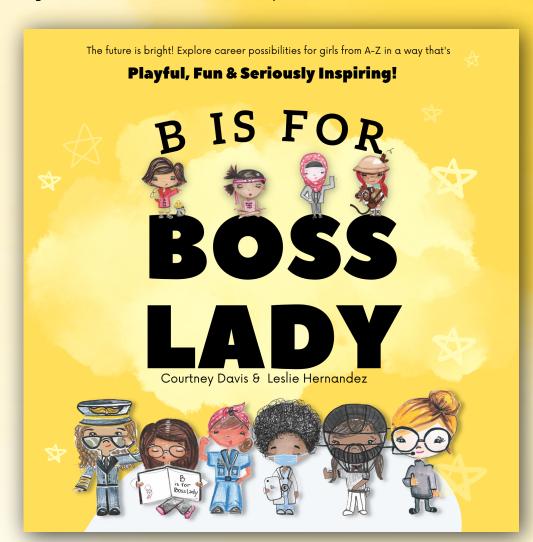
## Q: First tell us something about yourself?

Leslie: I'm a Baltimore native who is passionate about advocating for equity in education. For over a decade, I've launched educational products nationwide that have helped empower underserved students to build skills in literacy, mathematics, and game design development. My education advocacy extends into my community where I've mentored minority youth on career advancement and opened up the first charter school in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. As a first-gen college graduate, I hold a bachelors from the University of Maryland, College Park and a masters of Integrated Marketing from NYU.

Courtney: Hi! I'm Courtney! I'm a marketer, artist, and dance instructor. I grew up in North Carolina and studied classical ballet, which took me to New York City at a young age. I fell in love with New York and moved back after college to pursue my career in marketing. After working with a number of iconic brands, I found my passion in the education space. My mission in both my professional and personal life is to play a role in advancing equity in education and help young learners realize their true potential.

## Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

Courtney: I think we're both storytellers by nature, so it makes sense we ended up working in education publishing – which is actually how we met! We love children's books, and we'd always talk about how little boys could see themselves as firefighters, construction workers, astronauts, and more, while most books for girls showed them only as princesses and ballerinas. We decided to change that, and began work on a children's book of our own. We wanted to create a story that would enable girls of all backgrounds to see themselves and feel empowered.



# Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

Leslie: We started working on our book, B is for Boss Lady in 2018 and self-published it this past March.

#### Q: Tell us something more about your books?

Courtney: We were inspired to write B is for Boss Lady because there was not a book like it when we were growing up. We created it to be fun and playful so girls of all ages can see a 'career' as appealing and empowering, not boring or intimidating. As two driven and passionate career women, we wanted girls to be able to hold in their hands all that they can be.

# Q: Why do you choose kids as your reader? is there any specific reason?

Leslie: We love children's books! For both of us, children's books were a big part of our childhood and they helped to shape the people we have become. Children start to form their views of the world and themselves through stories, and we think our book can have a positive impact on the way young girls and boys alike see the future.

# Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

Courtney: We took inspiration from real life. We created characters that look like the real-world girls of today so that all readers could see themselves and everyone around them in the illustrations. Our boss ladies are all different colors, shapes, and sizes. And the roles also vary— a boss lady could be a CEO or she can be a firefighter! Both are equally important. We hope this wide array of careers can help girls to be proud of their chosen career path, whatever that may be.

# Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

Leslie: We want all readers to see a future that is full of possibilities and we want young girls to understand they can do anything they set out to do.

# PLAYFUL, FUN & SERIOUSLY INSPIRING!

B is For Boss Lady is an illustrated children's book that explores various career possibilities for girls from A-Z using playful rhymes, and quirky illustrations that reflect today's diverse world.

www.bisforbosslady.com





**ACTIVITY** 

# Brain Humpl

Each brick on the pyramid is the sum of the bricks beneath it.

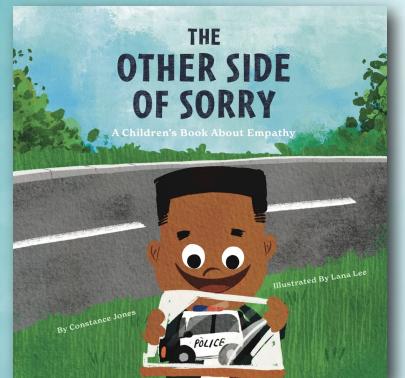
Can you fill The Gaps?



5 R AlioMag

6 R ALIOMAG

# THE OTHER SIDE OF SORRY A Children's Book about Empathy



"So many toys, but what caught his eye, Was a black-and-white police car two shelves too high."

The Other Side of Sorry is filled with bright and colorful illustrations that guide you through a touching true story.

A simple Sunday church outing takes a turn for the worse when little AJ does the unthinkable.

Join AJ on his journey as he realizes the consequences of his

The Other Side of Sorry is a great children's book on values. This touching story will teach your children about empathy and compassion and help them grow into good humans.

# www.authorcjones.com

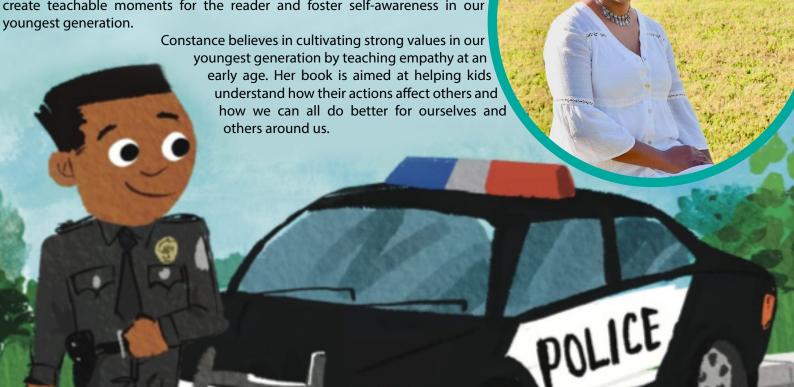
available at

amazon

# **CONSTANCE JONES**

Constance Jones is a mother and a wife. She's also a dreamer, an optimist, and a writer. With a deep-rooted passion for children and their development, Constance took to writing with ease.

Constance has written one children's book focused on empathy – The Other Side of Sorry: A Children's Book about Empathy. She uses personal experiences to create teachable moments for the reader and foster self-awareness in our



**Facts** 

# Lou Know ?

# Bees have 5 eyes.



The reason bees are so noisy is because they beat their wings 11,400 times in one minute!



Male bees in the hive are called drones.



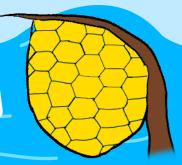
Number of eggs laid by queen is 2,000



he Honey Bee is the only insect that makes food man can eat.



An average beehive can hold around 50,000 bees



# **AUTHOR INTERVIEW**

# THE ADVENTURES OF KIP

Q: First tell us something about yourself?

I am a retired school guidance counselor, with decades of experience working with all aged children. This book is geared towards pre-school and early childhood education.

Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

A year ago, while traveling with Kip, as I usually do, I realized how great a travel companion he was. I have been part of an adult writing group for the past 2 years, so I was familiar with writing, but never have I written a children's book. I decided that Kip was worthy of a sweet story all about him.

Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

The Adventures of Kip is my 1st children's book, and it has recently been

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

The Adventures of Kip is the story of my dog, Kip. Kip is a happy, playful little dog who enjoys traveling and spending time with his family. He introduces his young readers to different modes of transportation as he experiences several different countries, and the unique qualities each one offers. It is not only a fun read, but educational too. One will get insight into his friendly personality from the very start.

He doesn't like being left home, and will be on his best behavior so that he gets to go with his human family. He embarks on a family trip to France, Spain and Rome, where he has the time of his life. He samples the food in every country he visits, dances in the street, sits in cafes, and visits the monkeys. When he finally arrives home, Kip settles into his normal calm demeanor, and happily joins his mom in a yoga practice.

Q: Why do you choose kids as your reader? Is there any specific reason?

I love children, and their pure innocence. Kip is drawn to children, and they seem to love him.

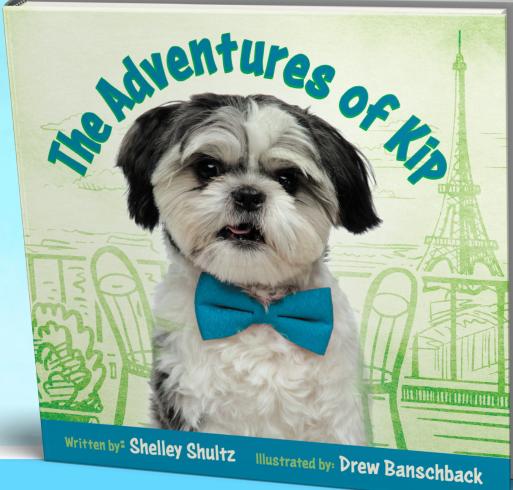
Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

There are very few characters in my book. However, there is a cartoon-like version of myself throughout the story, as well as a monkey. I wanted to illustrate Kip's loving nature towards humans and animals alike.

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

9 kidlioMag





Nate is a very curious, intelligent and independent little boy who is fascinated and inspired by all the beautiful colors in the world, which sparks his imagination.

This charming and delightful story is about Nate's magical, funny, and colorful adventure on his very first day of school, starting with magically changing colors and figuring it out with his pleasantly surprised mom.

> This unique book not only takes young readers on a joyfully exciting adventure, but also inspires and educates them on essential life lessons and conveys a very powerful and positive message.

A must-have book in every school and in every child's hand, this book is a precious gift to all the children in the world.

available at





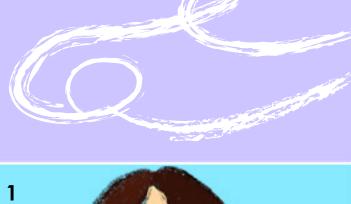
# Friends Misfits

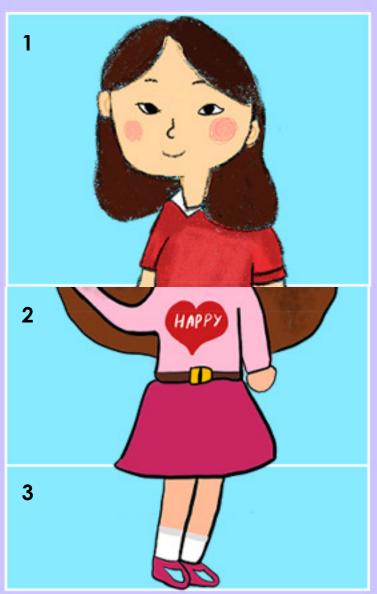
The Pieces of Their Pictures are mixed up and they look so strange could you please fix them as shown in the above picture?



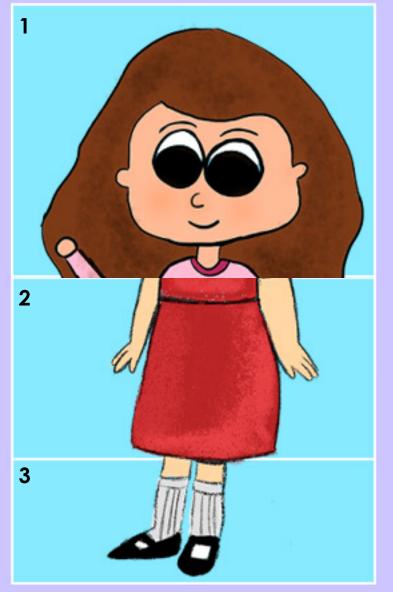
ACTIVITY

















# Rise Of The Woody Knoll Warriors

#### Q: First tell us something about yourself?

I'm from beautiful New Hampshire USA. I've been married for almost 30 years and have 2 amazing adult daughters.

#### Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

Around 1997 I wrote a short, simple story which 25 years later has blossomed into the epic adventure it is today!

#### Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

My first published book was released in 2019. A book on loss and grief called "A Million More Kisses." This next book, "Rise of the Woody Knoll Warriors" is the first in a series. It will be released in September.

## Q: Tell us something more about your books?

After overcoming a difficult childhood, my books focus on teaching kids just that, how to deal with life's waves. Bullying, grief, personality differences, self doubt.

#### Q: Why do you choose kids as your reader? is there any specific reason?

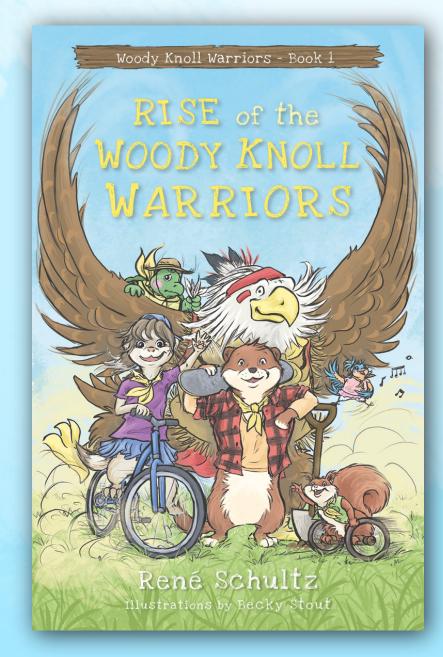
Why do I write for kids? I mentor teens online. They are bombarded on social media by pages of self harm, depression and suicide. It's like a clique. One reason I write for kids is because it's easier. I struggle with ADHD and other issues, so shorter, simpler books are easier. Also, I have a heart for kids. I want to get to them before social media influences them in the wrong direction. This is an epic passion.

#### Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

How did the stories and characters come to me? Almost everything is based on my actual life! My first book is about my family and my dog, Geronimo. It is centered around my life's work which is eldercare and even features my cousin who works at the local library. Rise of the Woody Knoll Warriors is based in my town, featuring my family's 100 year old farmhouse, with characters and personalities based on people I know.

# Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

A message for my readers? We know our kids are heavily influenced at school, through tv, video games, even other family members. Finding time to feed ourselves positivity throughout the day is a struggle in and of itself. Feeding our kids that faith and hope around work, homework, cooking etc, is nearly impossible. I want to be that for families. I want kids to read my books and feel hope for tomorrow despite their pains of the day. I want to build a world of Woody Knoll Warriors!



#### Welcome to our Knoll!

In the first book of this series, learn how Kitchi the Eagle finds courage through his Native American roots. Read how Wally Weasel overcomes the painful words of the neighborhood bully, Banjo Badger. How will Francesca Ferret overcome her fears to save her friends when a forest fire breaks out? Come join us on our adventures! Together, we will rise to become, The Woody Knoll Warriors!

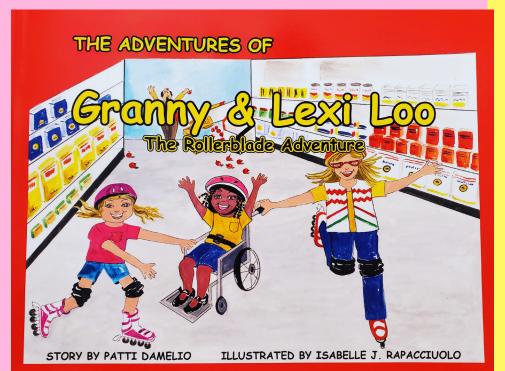
available at

amazon

13kidlioMag

# The Adventures Of Franky & Lexi The Rollerblade Adventure





Follow Granny and Lexi Loo as they explore sensitive issues in an age appropriate manner: Death, Diversity, Divorce, Friendship, Bullying, and Love. The "Rollerblade Adventure" is the first published story in The Adventures of Granny and Lexi Loo series.

www.adventuresofgrannyandlexiloo.com



Patti D'Amelio

Patti D'Amelio has spent most of her life working with her students and children, and, now, her grandkids. She has been a teacher for over thirty years and, in 1999, she received the "Educator of Excellence Award" by the New York State English Council. Patti said that she was especially proud of her students who won numerous awards for their writing submissions to local writing competitions. In addition to their writing pieces being showcased in the district's publications, they were also invited to attend ceremonies and share their "published" works. Her advice to young writers is to find your voice. "When you are satisfied with your writing piece, then it is indeed ready for publication."

Patti is retired from full-time teaching; however, she gives back by teaching Pre-K in the District Youth Council Program.

The "Rollerblade Adventure" is the first published story in The Adventures of Granny and Lexi Loo series. Each of these stories addresses sensitive issues in an age-appropriate manner. Patti believes that children need to know that their feelings are real and that they are not alone.

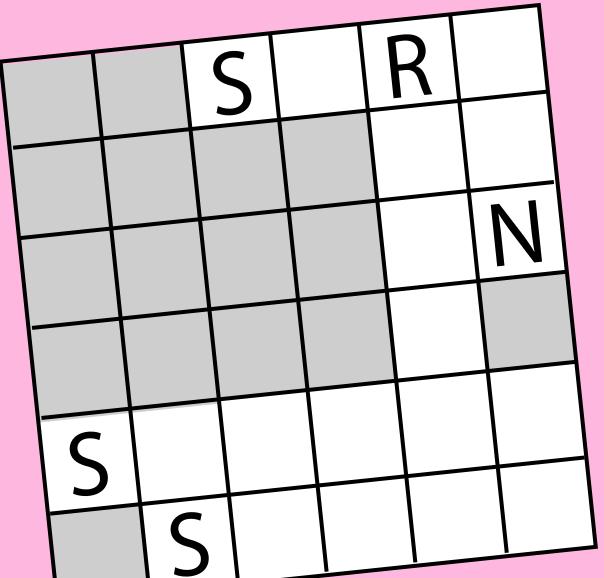
Patti's best moment ever was when she and Lexi Loo were reading a story together and Lexi Loo said, "Grandma, they are just like you and me - best friends."

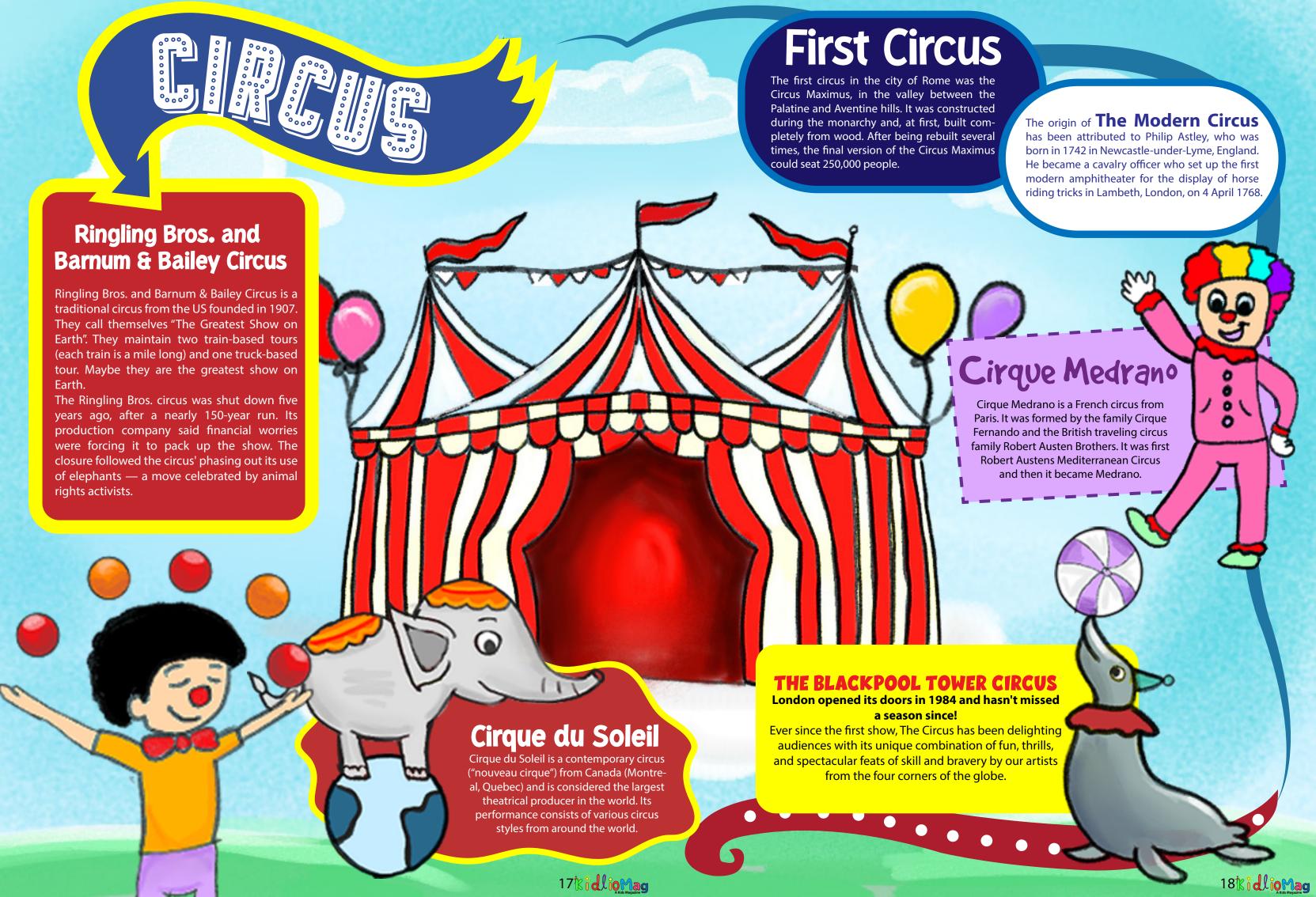


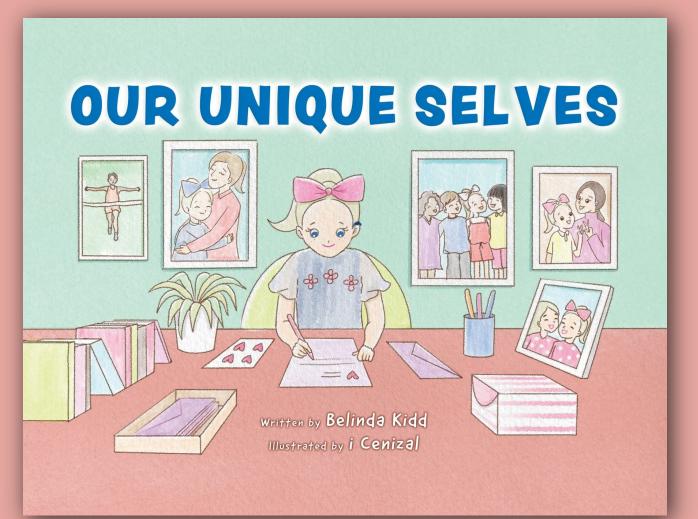
Let's Roll!

fill in the words to complete the grid!

Surf Roller Fun Skates Slide







# OUR UNIQUE SELVES

Meet an eight-year-old girl who tells her story about how she has worked through some of life's challenges and overcome these barriers, while working towards reaching her goals and creating positive outcomes. The story recognises the important role each person plays in this journey.

Come along and learn about the life of someone who has an important message to share. Just as everyone is different, so must be our approaches to support and care for one another to get the best possible outcomes. A little girl's life is transformed with hard work, commitment, and setting and achieving her goals by making the most of the opportunities made and given.

www.belindakiddauthor.com



I am a mother of 3 children - Girl 9, Boy 6, Boy 2. I am also a business owner of a disability service, we started the business 6 years ago. I live in Newcastle, NSW Australia.

# Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

Last year during lockdown/ home-schooling (September 2021) I felt inspired to share my daughters story of overcoming a language disorder. She has had to work extremely hard to overcome some challenges since she was 3 years old, so I felt her story would inspire other children/families who have been on a similar journey. It is a story that will inspire young children to keep working hard to overcome their challenges, by setting goals and working with their support networks. It also helps create awareness amongst young primary aged children, promoting understanding and inclusion.

# Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

Our Unique Selves is my first story, published in March this year.

# Q: Tell us something more about your books?

This is my first, designed to be a positive resource for families, schools, speech clinics, psychologists, occupational therapists etc. I would like to continue writing books that further educate and inspire young children.

# Q: Why do you choose kids as your reader? is there any specific reason?

I had an important message to share from a personal experience - working with my daughter to overcome her language disorder. I understand the commitment and at times, the pressure and worry that parents can be faced with when their child is faced with challenges so I felt this story would resonate with many families like mine. For the children with learning difficulties, physical disabilities, anxiety/depression....for them to understand they have support and that they're not alone in overcoming their challenges. I also wanted to create awareness to help prevent bullying and isolation in the school yard.

# Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

Based on my daughters journey.

# Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

This is a wonderfully inspiring story that should be shared with all young children - from 4 to 12 years. A great story to educate young children on why it's ok to be different, and to keep supporting each-other to reach individual goals. It's been a fantastic resource in primary classrooms, opening up positive discussions amongst Teacher and students.



# Belinda Kidd





# DAADI

The doorbell rang and Simran rushed to open the door. It was her Papa looking very tired and sad. Prashant patted her on the cheek and entered. Simran stood near the door and looked around.

# "Papa, where is Daadi?" she asked.

Just then Simran's mum, Asha came rushing.

She looked at Prashant and **†23YS** started flowing down her cheeks.

She was about to ask something when Prashant gestured towards Simran. Asha looked her and said, "Go inside, Simran. I'll join you in a minute."

Simran went and threw herself on the bed. She knew something horrible had happened and it had to do with the person she loved the most.

"I am coming straight from the crematorium. There was a long queue," Prashant said.

"How do we break it to Simran?"

"Asha, she is barely six. And we know how fond she was of her Daadi. We have to be careful. Let me handle it."

Prashant went inside. Simran was lying with her eyes closed but he knew she was only pretending to sleep.

"Simran, I know you want to know about your Daadi?" he gently said, his hand ruffling her thick curls.

Simran opened her eyes and sat up. Her face was ANXIOUS as she looked at her Papa.

"You told me she.....she has gone to the hospital and....will soon be back."

"Yes, Simi," Papa nodded his head.

"Daadi was in the hospital for one week - Papa began saying when she interrupted him.

"When is she coming back?"

"Simi, Daadi has gone to a place far, far away, among the statis...."

"Will she never come back?"

"Yes, if you are a good girl, she...he will," Prashant looking at the alarm clock and then the cobwebs above the almirah! "Why can't we go there, Papa? You fly planes, why can't you take me there?"

"No, Simi! Planes are not allowed there," Prashant said and picking her up in his arms took her outside.

Prashant and Asha were in the living room when Simran entered. It was a week since the death of her Daadi. Her hair was dishevelled and her eyes were red. It was apparent that she had been crying.

"Papa, you were lying to me. Daadi has not gone to the stars. My bestie Anmol was saying she is dead. Like our Lab Chutney died last year she is also dead. And like you buried Chutney in the garden you must have also....." Simran burst into tears and rushed out of the room. Prashant ran after her.

"Yes Simi, Rajesh is right. Daadi is dead. When people die, they never come back. The day she passed away I took her to the place where people who die, are taken."

"But then why did you tell me she has gone to the stars and will come back if I am good," Simran said her eyes welling up.

"I am sorry Simi. I didn't want to hurt you."

Simran looked at him in silence as tears rolled down her cheeks.

"Papa, who will tell me stories now?" Simi asked Prashant. It was two days after Daadi had passed away.

"I'm there no. Simi."

"But you don't know any stories. Last time when Daadi had gone to Bua's place I had asked you. You gave me your mobile to play and started snoring."

"Simi, that day I must have been tired. But don't you worry, I remember the stories Daadi used to tell you."

"How come?"



"These are the same stories she used to tell me and your bua."

"But can you make the funny and scary faces and noises?"

"I'll try Simi, or may be you can teach me." Prashant smiled and Simi nodded.

Asha and Prashant were in daadi's room sorting out some old papers. Simran was watching them in silence. Prashant turned to her. "Simi, I have an idea. We cannot bring back daadi, but we can do something which would have made her very happy."

"What?" Simran asked, not very interested.

"She always wanted us to make a **Family Video** from the day she and daadu got married till your, her only grandchild's, sixth birthday."

"How can we do that?"

"See, I have found seven albums in daadi's almirah. You start selecting the photos. In the meanwhile, let me check Asha's phone as well as mine. We are sure to get some interesting pics and clips. Combining the two we shall together make a video."

Simran nodded, her eyes lighting up a bit.

Over the next week Simran got busy selecting the **photographs**. In some of the pics it was really difficult to recognise either daadi or Daadi and she had to take her Papa or mum's help.

Sometimes she had nice laugh seeing how her daadi had changed from a strict looking skinny young girl to a plump and jolly lady, with two of her front teeth missing. Or how her Daadu's thick hair had disappeared to reveal a bald pate with a fringe on either side.

Finally, the video was completed. Her family had gathered for a ceremony on the 11th day! (She couldn't understand why 11th day!)

Prashant switched on the video at the end of the function and people loved it. Everyone had only one comment to make – Simran had inherited her daadi's looks - she was the little daadi!

But Simran had eyes for only one person. Her daadi who was staring at her from a huge photograph on the wall. She was looking exactly as she had on Simran's last birthday when she had made the yummy kheer for her, in thick creamy milk and a double dose of sugar.

She heard someone whisper her name. It was Papa. He picked her up gently and giving her a tight hug said,

"Daadi will always be there, not among the stars, but in your little heart."

- Ramendra Kumar



Ramendra Kumar is a writer by passion, a storyteller by obsession, a mentor by aspiration, a communicator by profession and a dancer by inspiration. He has authored 42 books and his writings which have been translated into 30 languages and have found a place in several textbooks and anthologies.

www.ramendra.in.

21 kidlio Mag





# syonamas 4 secowing Up Sin

# Q: First tell us something about yourself?

Denise A. Bailey is a wife, the mother of three and grandmother of seven. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Robert Morris College where she majored in Business Administration and have worked in Property Management for over twenty years.

She values having a GRANDMArvelous time with her grandchildren and spending quality time with her family and friends. When she is not working, she loves watching romance movies, writing poetry, and being actively involved in her community.

Believing in the power of an education, displaying kindness to everyone, and accepting guidance and constructive criticism is what she believes helps children become successful and caring human beings; and understanding how important it is for children to see role models and relatable characters in literature who look like them is why she wrote her first children's book "Grandma's ABC's of Growing Up".

My dream is for children to read my books and find answers and solutions that will help guide them as they grow up.

# Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

Actually, my journey as a writer began when I was a teenager writing journals full of poetry which eventually led me to write and record my first music single in 2017 called "A Mother's Cry". Writing poetry has always been my coping mechanism for as along as I can remember. For some reason, writing poetry has always come natural to me.

# Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

I started writing my first children's book approximately two years ago when covid was at its peak and I started working from home. It was written at a sentimental time when I felt the need to prepare to leave my footprints and/or legacy to remember me by, as well as, provide something positive for children during a time when things seemed so confusing. Yes, it is published.

#### Q: Tell us something more about your books?

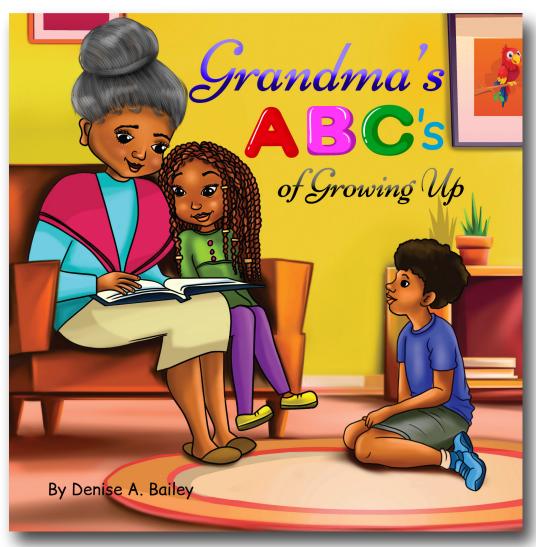
"Grandma's ABC's of Growing Up" is the first of a series of books. My books are written to inspire and motivate children from a grandmother's perspective. Often times, children listen to grandmothers even when they are not listening to parents or other adults.

It is equally as important that the book be educational, a fun read, and the illustrations must be beautiful and represent characters that children of color can see in themselves. The book also has accompanying coloring and activity book available.

#### Q: Why do you choose kids as your reader? is there any specific reason?

The book started out as a pet project that I wanted to write for my grandchildren to leave as a keepsake. It was vital for me to leave something for them to use as a roadmap to help guide them as they grow up and encounter life's rewards and challenges. The ultimate goal of the book is to stress the importance of showing respect, developing values, loving family, building positive relationships, and focusing on education. Once the book was completed with so many powerful messages, I knew I had to get it in the hands of children all around the world.... and that is how my first book was thought of and published.





### Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

I started writing letters to my grandchildren and though about all of the other children who needed to hear the messages in this book.

The messages and poetry in this book are based on my own wisdom and experiences of being a grandmother for close to twenty-two years and my hopes and dreams I have for my grandchildren and all children. I wanted to make it easier for children to understand life is full of values and lessons and It's up to them how they react to them. My concentration centered on positive affirmations and encouragement in this book.

It wanted to make sure that the characters and the readers had a cultural and humanistic connection.

#### Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

My hope is for all children to read this book. It's not just for grandchildren. The book is also for nieces, nephews, cousins, neighbors, etc. I want them all to utilize this book as a reference tool as they grow up.

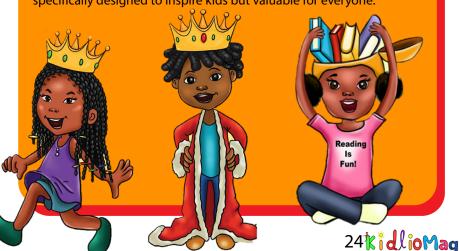
On their bad days I want this book to give them encouragement and motivation. And, on their goods days, I want this book to make them smile and rejoice. My hope is also that the book gives each child guidance and positive reinforcement to conquer whatever their little heart desires and instill in them the important of love, kindness, and acceptance.

#### website: www.grandmarvelous.com

Amazon https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09ZFQL3PQ/

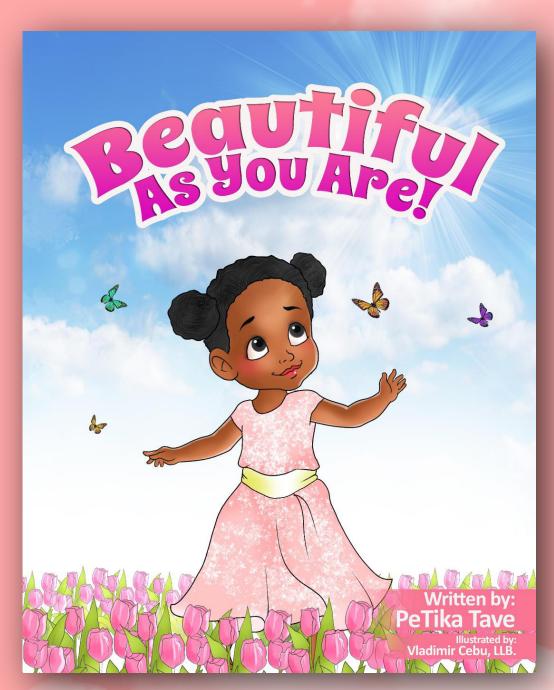
From A to Z, this adorable and entertaining alphabet book represents insights that help children and adults understand and discuss values, expectations, and life changing lessons for children as they grow up and encounter some of life's rewards and challenges.

In "Grandma's ABC's of Growing Up" every page leaves a powerful message for children to remember long after they have read this book. Filled with beautiful illustrations and dynamic poetry, this book is specifically designed to inspire kids but valuable for everyone.





# SCIULIFUT YOU Are!



A brilliantly illustrated, inspirational book that celebrates the beauty of young girls, inside and out. Written as a poem, it teaches children that they are wonderfully made, just the way they are.

amazon

# Q: First tell us something about yourself?

I am a teacher of middle grades ELA of 17 years that just happened to venture into the world of being an author. Having grown up tall and chronically obese, life was challenging. I was 6ft, 300 lbs in the 8th grade and later ballooned to 427 lbs. at the age of 22. I struggled with self-esteem and self-worth. After losing almost 200 lbs. through proper diet and nutrition and winning the Weight Watchers 2006 Inspiring Stories of the Year Award, I vowed to help other children that struggled with self-esteem and childhood obesity.

# Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

My writing journey started when I found out I was having my 2nd child, my daughter. I knew she would probably be tall like me and heavier than most, so I wrote poems that I would share with her while I was still carrying her. After her birth, I decided to turn those poems into a book and sent my manuscript to several publishing houses. Back in 2009, self-publishing wasn't really a big thing and getting accepted by a big publishing house was very unlikely for an unknown, unrepresented writer. Hence, after numerous rejections, I let the poems sit for about 10 years.

# Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

Fast forward to 10 years later, one of my colleagues had just published her first book. She was so gracious enough to let me pick her brain on how to get my books into the world, so I took all the information I could, did some research, said lots of prayers, and began the journey of self-publishing my first book, "Beautiful As You Are." It's important to note that my best friend suggested that instead of publishing a book of poems for children that I should take each poem and make them an individual book, since children's books are typically short and sweet. I took that advice and have been moving forward since.

## Q: Tell us something more about your books?

The books are affirmations designed for boys and girls to help them realize that they are "enough," just the way they are. They celebrate the uniqueness of each individual and helps them to realize their inner and outer beauty and brilliance. You'll notice that now I'm talking about two books. After releasing my first book, the response was so overwhelming and people wanted one for boys, so I decided to mirror "Beautiful As You Are," which is an ode to little girls, and wrote "Brilliant As You Are," a celebration of young boys.

## Q: Why do you choose kids as your reader? is there any specific reason?

I chose children because of my own story and the purpose behind the books. I want to empower kids to love themselves, no matter what.

# Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

Always remember and know this to be true, you are beautiful and brilliant as you are because you're the one and only you!

# PeTika Tave







# Q: First tell us something about yourself?

My name is Sheila C. Duperrier. I am a former kindergarten teacher back in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. I am also a mother. Some of my favorite things to do are reading, singing, cooking, enjoying nature, spend time with my family. And I think it's a good idea to put my passion on paper while helping children in a fun way.

# Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

My writing journey started when I was a teenager. I started writing mostly poems; that was a great way to express myself, my feelings, my joy, and my secrets... so my journals became my friends, so to speak. From a young age I started to write poetic text, and short stories about anything and everything.

# Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

I started writing my first story when I was 13 years old. No, it was not intended to be published.

# Q: Tell us something more about your books?

My books use a character named Reina, which is portrayed as an intelligent, adventurous and curious girl, eager to learn everything about nature while having fun. I use Reina to teach children moral values, compassion, and to learn practical things and good habits. To reach even more kids my books are available in 4 languages: English, Spanish, French and Haitian Creole. To add more fun, activity and coloring books are created as well.

# Q: Why do you choose kids as your reader? is there any specific reason?

As an educator and mother, I am aware of the dangers of social media on young minds today. Kids raised watching a lot of TV suffer from the bad things they learned. Reina's books will try to engage children from a young age, thus cutting from the time they spend in front of the screens while teaching them value in a fun way.

Writing for children is a way for me to still be able to connect with children and work with them. That gives me joy and satisfaction.

#### Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

Most of them come just by observing the types of children's content my child likes. And, by choosing a topic that I can use to instill a lesson. So, I use Reina, who is a superhero type of girl to explore and learn everything around her while teaching and entertaining the readers.

#### Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

The best way to empower a child is through knowledge. And most knowledge can be found in books. So, despite the uprising of the Internet and social media, please continue to read to your child, and encourage them to read. Not any book, but a book for a great purpose.

available at amazon

# Reina Visits the Butterfly Sarden



The mountains and valleys around town are filled with trees, flowers, and gorgeous insects of all kinds. Reina visits the town's butterfly garden...

Reina is a smart and sensitive young girl who loves nature, but she is afraid of insects. Will she always be afraid? Will she conquer her fear?

Join Reina on this journey and discover the importance of insects especially butterflies, and her process of learning about her favorite ones! This charming children's book is designed to make your child become a butterfly expert! Let's start learning along with Reina and having fun!

www.reinazone.com



Sheila C. Duperrier

# **NEW RELEASE**

# Jan 2 / Just in Case

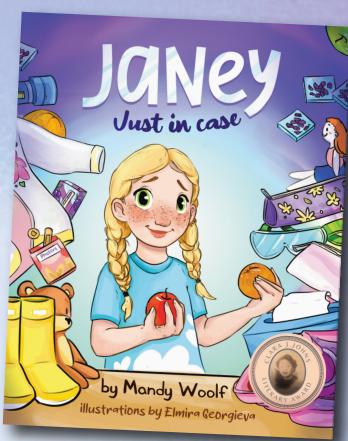
Bronze award for Best Early Reader book, for the Clara J Johns Literary Award 2022

Tomorrow is Janey's first day of school and worries are falling heavily on her shoulders...

Waking early, she fills her back pack adding a few extra's... just in case!

After all, you never know what you might need for your first day of school...

Follow Janey as she grows in confidence and self-belief and discovers the beauty of friendship.



# MANDY WOOLF

I am a wife and mother of five, I have four dogs, and a rabbit which I adore.

I am a qualified Montessori teacher with over twenty-five years of experience with special needs, and, in my spare time, I follow my passion for writing.

I am very passionate about helping children in overcoming their anxieties and life challenges and each story that I write has a gentle message in it to help guide children.

I draw from my own personal experiences and the children that I teach. Both my own children and the children that I teach are my inspiration.



# STORY

# Elizabeth and Raina

I will now announce the finalists of the Debate competition:
Christina and Lizzie
Ramona and Bea
Elizabeth and Raina
Joe and Adam!
Announced the anchor.

All the while, Raina worried, "Do I look okay? Will everyone laugh at me?" And Elizabeth was fretting over when her chance came. Suddenly Ramona came over to Raina and said, "Hey freak, you know that there is less chance of you winning, right? Or do I need to spell it out for you?" "Stop it, will you?", interrupted Elizabeth. Ramona made faces, "Ugh, Later LOSERS!". The feeling of losing everything made Raina's eyes fill with tears.

"Listen, R, when I was in 1st grade, I was teased a lot and then one fine day, I learnt, you gotta always tease back, fight back, stand up for yourself. People like that idiotic Ramona will think of you as a target if you cry. So please never cry, Raina. Be strong!" Elizabeth explained.

When their turn came, Raina debated ridiculously well with Elizabeth, and she won! Raina's victory made Elizabeth jump like a small kindergarten kid.

Raina could never be as confident as she marched her way in life with Elizabeth!
Like Arjuna and Krishna!

Prisha Ambi 10 years old





a suitcase for his summer holiday?

BECAUSE HE ALREADY HAD A Where do sheep go on vacation?

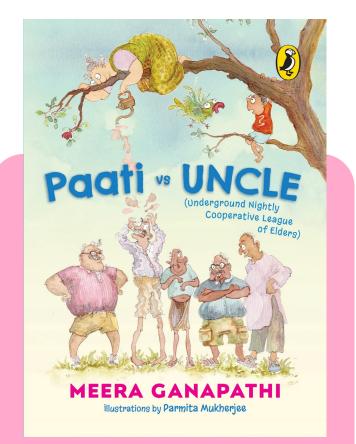
TO THE BAA-HAMAS

Why didn't the sun go to college?

**HE ALREADY HAD A MILLION DECREES**  I could really use some

Let's take a trip to the beach, **Vitamin Sea!** 

33 kidliomag



Name: Paati vs UNCLE (The Underground Nightly Cooperative League of Elders)

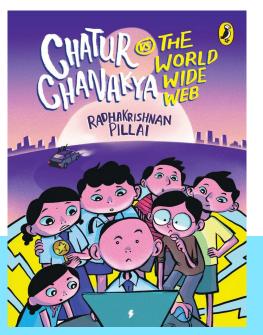
Publisher: Penguin India

Author: Meera Ganapathi

Description: All Inju wants is a quiet, boring holiday at the most boring house in Mumbai, but life at Parijat Retirement Colony is not the same any more. A thief is on the loose, and Paati has decided to become an UNCLE! But when the uncles of UNCLE (The Underground Nightly Cooperative League of Elders) act not so cooperative, Inju takes charge. Joining forces with a lady whose papads were stolen, the skinny building watchman and Paati, Inju forms PAATI (The People's Association against Thieves International).

Can this motley crew of detectives crack the code?





Name: Chatur Chanakva vs the World Wide Web

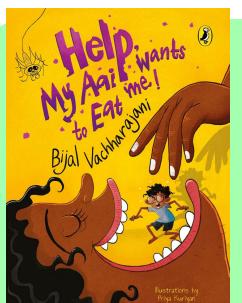
Author: Radhakrishnan Pillai

Publisher: Penguin India

Description: Meet the smartest of them all!

The Super Six of Ganesh Colony are back, with new faces and new challenges. Lakshmi is all set to represent Vani Vidyalaya at an inter-school maths tournament, Chanakya is busy learning about the World Wide Web and Arjun . . . well, he's up to his usual shenanigans. But Lakshmi seems to be harbouring a terrible secret-she's being bullied online! As she receives one nasty message after another, she fears being disqualified from the tournament. Can Chanakya and Arjun combine the intelligence of the past and the future to catch the

Get ready to join the gang on an exciting adventure-cum-whodunnit! Get ready for Chatur Chanakya.



Name: Help! My Aai Wants to Eat Me

Author: Bijal Vachharajani

Publisher: Penguin India

Description: Avi has an extremely annoying habit of seeing the good side (pros) and the bad side (cons) of situations that life tosses his way-just like the curveballs his best friend HJ tosses while playing cricket. Only this time, Avi is in the soup. Just like the mama bear who is known to eat her sickly baby, Avi is pretty sure that his aai wants to dunk him in soup and eat him up. Even though he definitely would not taste good. Now, the only two options in front of Avi are fight or be fried. Avi's thoughts on this book: Pro: Reading this book will make you a smart cookie and feed your imagination, especially about all things wild. Con: Cookies are edible and Aai is hungry! Uh-oh. Dig in at your own risk.

Join Us for Celebration of Teachers Day

# **Summit Organiser**





Anjali S Jangam

11 SEPT 2022

11 A.M.

A Pimpri-Chinchwad

Entrepreneur, Social Activist | Educationist, Fashion Model Groomer Proprietor of S&A Group of Companies | Founder of We Group (Woman Empowerment) Founder & President of Ek Umang Foundation

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Salute to the Flag



We salute our Indian Flag, It has its glory as its tag!

We remember the sacrifices of the past, The fruits of which will forever last!

We are proud of the religions we possess, Unity in diversity is our success!

We are a land of high mountains and rivers, Paradise on land spread in slivers!

We celebrate this Independence Day, With joy and honesty in every say!

~Neha Sama



35 to dliomag

