

4th Year Anniversary Edition

May Issue 2024 Free

A Kid's Literary Magazine

KIDLIOMAG

Introducing Little Miss Super-Fro!
Alona Joseph

Jane Escapes to the
Jungle of Individuality
Jennifer Nestor

Ballet Beignet
Arian T. Moore

Three Pampered Pugs
Sandra Kitabjian

The Magical Kite
Justine A. P. Louis
Regine A. Duvilaire

Jo's Special Gifts
Mariam Shapera

The Elemental Dragons
Sybrina Durant

The Pizza Dog
Erin Farley

Grace Loves her Neighbor
Negrita Smart



LiteracyNation, Inc.

An Affiliate Of The American Library Association

Rella. B

Cover Story



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Editor's Note

Dear Esteemed Authors and Beloved Readers,
As we celebrate the fourth anniversary of our literary journey, I feel overwhelmed with gratitude. You, the authors, are the ones behind the stories that have enchanted us, made us dream and ignited our imagination. Your words have transported us to faraway galaxies, painted sunsets in our minds and shared secrets only known to the stars. Thank you for sharing your brilliance, vulnerability and creativity with us. Your stories have become constellations in our hearts.

To our readers, you are our compass, guiding our adventures with every page turn. With your curiosity, you've laughed with mischievous characters, shed tears for lost loves, and embarked on quests that defy time. Your loyalty ignites our passion and fuels our ink. Thank you for being the wind beneath our wings, lifting us higher with each chapter.

Dear authors and readers, It is because of your contribution that our pages have come to life, and we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for that.
As we blow out the candles on this anniversary cake, let's raise our quills and bookmarks. Here's to countless more adventures, characters waiting to be born, and stories yet untold.

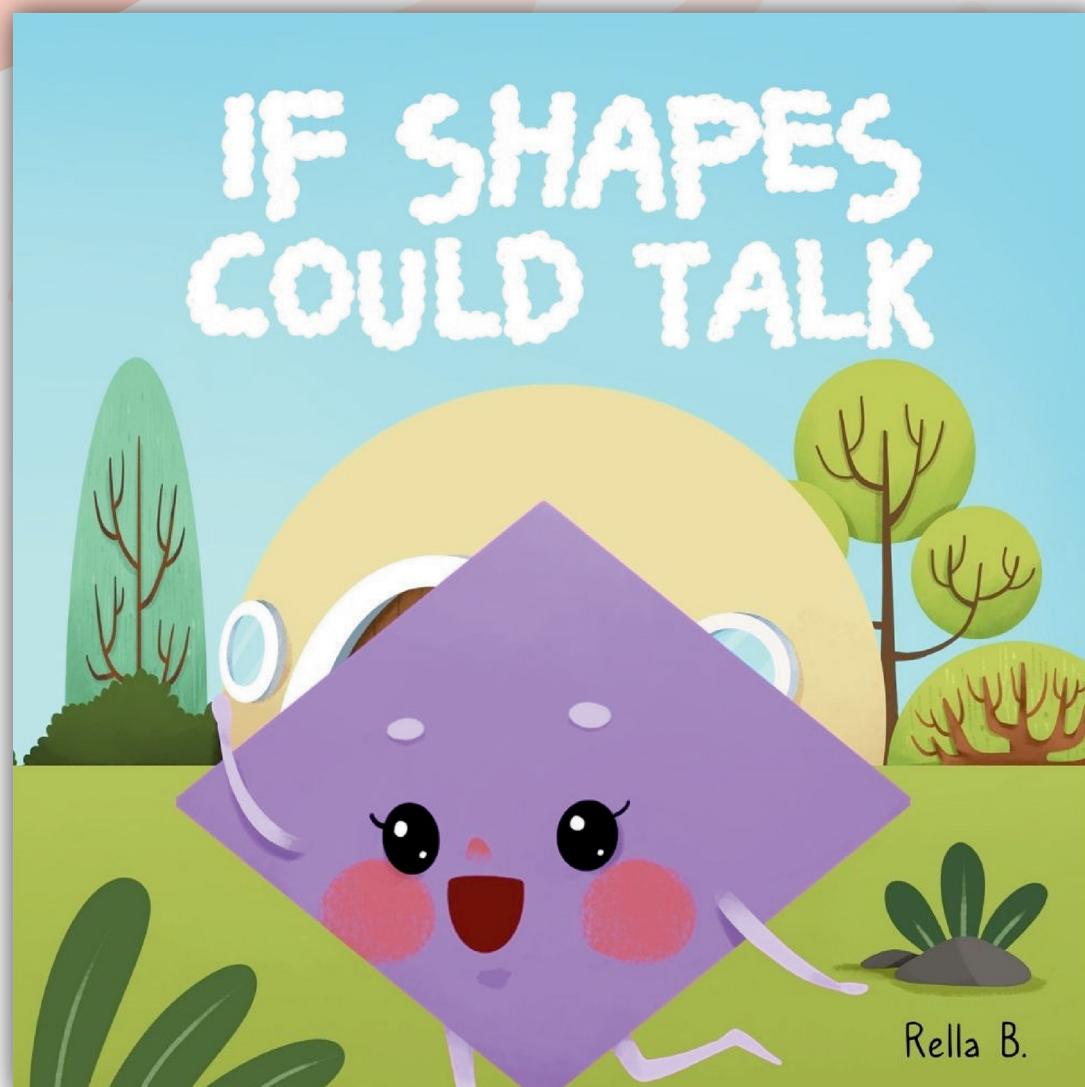
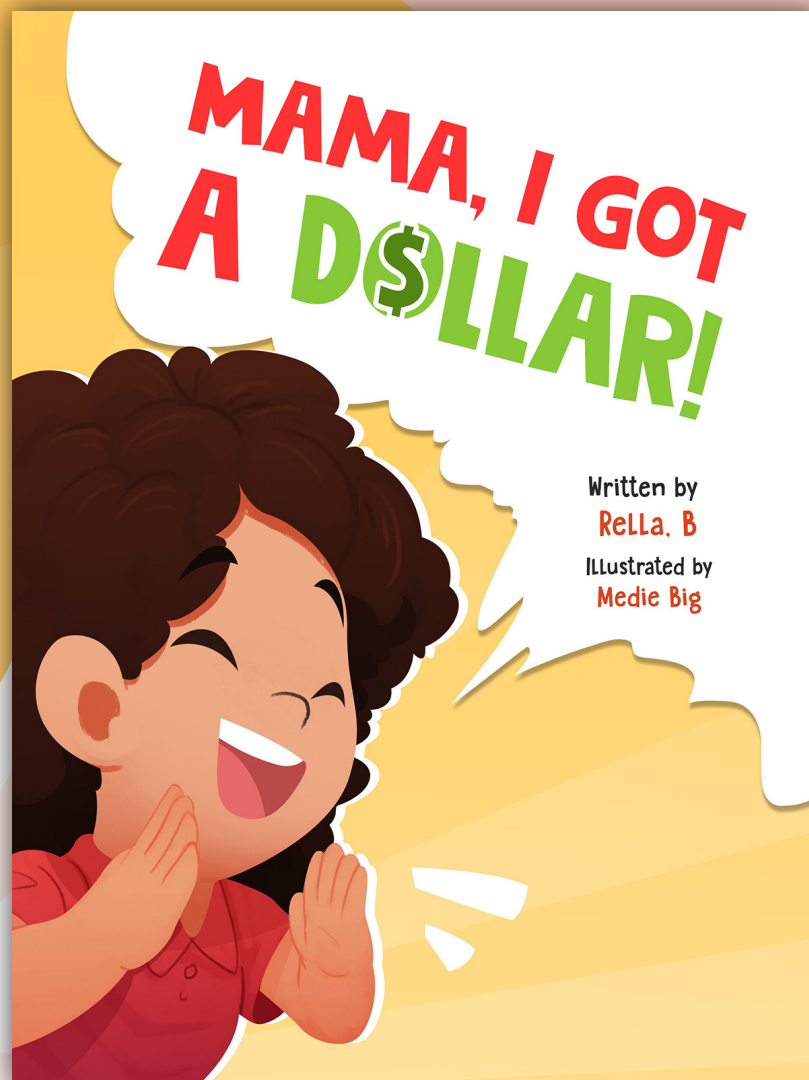
With love and excitement, Happy 4th Anniversary, Kidlio-Mag!
P.S. Keep turning those pages, and let the magic continue!

Dhruvin Dharmendra

Dhruvin
Dharmendra



MAMA, I GOT A DOLLAR!



available at
amazon



Rella. B

Q: First, tell us something about yourself.

I love to sing, but unfortunately, I can't. It's actually quite sad. I attempted to sing in my podcast intro, and the sound engineer strongly advised that I should consider getting a vocal artist.

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

Officially, my journey began five years ago. I started taking notes on my iPad at work, but I sat on many of my book ideas for years. Two years ago, there was an update to my work-space system that wiped out all of my drafts, and that served as a wake-up call. I began to back up my work and then started planning my next moves for my writing career. And now, Rella B is here!

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

I've had a love for writing since I was a kid. English was my favorite class. I actually wrote and illustrated my first book in 3rd grade, which was an autobiography. Hopefully, I will be releasing a more extensive addition in the coming years.

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

Most of my books are part of a series. They cover topics that I hope will inspire conversations within the families that read them.

It's not always common to talk about money or economic and social differences with children, but my books provide a great starting point for potential dialogues. I also aim to have each book accompanied by a workbook of some kind so I can provide as much value as possible.

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

I have a day job that affords me a lot of free time. So, I would journal and jot down ideas that came to my mind. Often, inspiration strikes during conversations I'm having. I usually base the characters on people I know in real life. For example, for "Mama, I Got a Dollar," I was discussing with someone how they never really learned anything about money until they had a job. And for "If Shapes Could Talk," I had a conversation with a previous social worker that reminded me of the diverse backgrounds and upbringings that all children have.

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

Absolutely! I want readers to know that you can enjoy doing things even if you're not "the best" at them. This is something I struggled with a lot as a child. If I wasn't the fastest or the best at something, I would lose interest and focus on what I was good at. Now that I'm an adult, I love trying new things and slowly improving to reach my personal best, not anyone else's.

www.Rellabbooks.com

Find The 10 Hidden Crabs In The Scene.



Q: First, tell us something about yourself and your organization, LiteracyNation, Inc.

My name is Richard E. Ashby, Jr., and I co-founded a nonprofit organization called LiteracyNation, Inc., with my wife, Charmaine. I am a Library Director in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, but when we started LiteracyNation, I was a newly graduated librarian, and I had just lost my first job. I was passionate about reading and passionate about my community, especially the children. So, I started doing things on my own to help people: students who were struggling; older adults who needed help with applying for community services; young men who were out of work; people who didn't know where to turn for help. In all these situations, I knew that literacy was the common ground. You need excellent reading skills in order to have excellent life skills. Literacy is everything!

So, I started a library of my own. A building was donated to us, but unfortunately it was in an unsafe neighborhood, especially at night. As a result, I took my library outside during the day... literally, to the streets. I set up tables and bookshelves, books and desks... and the people came! They came for books, and they came to talk, and some came to help. I became known as The Sidewalk Librarian. The name stuck, and to this day, I credit my days as The Sidewalk Librarian as the foundation for LiteracyNation, Inc.

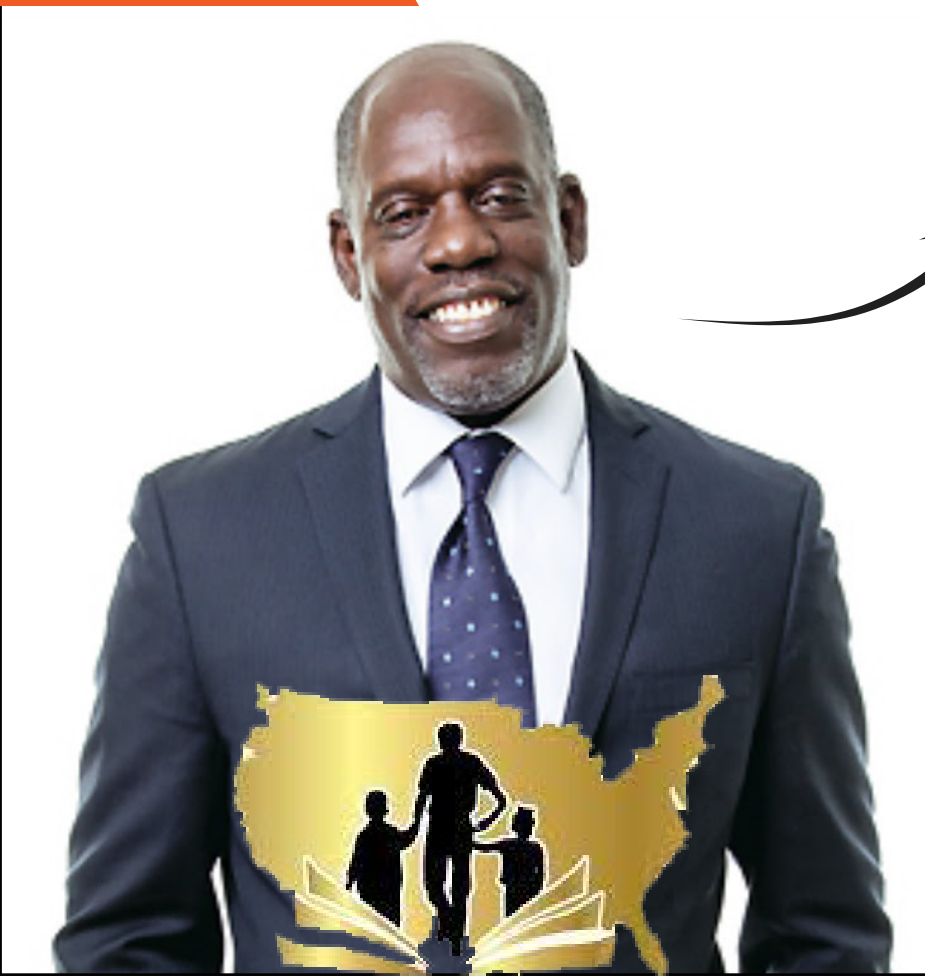


Q: Can you tell us about what LiteracyNation, Inc. does? What is your mission?

Our mission is to promote justice, equity, and diversity in literacy by providing services to underserved communities of Color and supporting diverse independent booksellers and self-published authors. Our motto is "With Literacy and Justice for All" because there is no justice or equity without diversity; and literacy, as I said, is a critical life skill for us all.

LiteracyNation, Inc. provides self-published, independent authors with resources, training, networking opportunities, promotion, and support to help them become successful in the book industry. One of the greatest benefits we offer our members is the ability to catalog their books into the WorldCat (the world catalog and inter-library system). We have our own account as an independent library, and we have a team of professional library catalogers we call "IndieCats." This is a huge step for authors, and it is a great benefit in getting them connected to their local libraries and having their books circulated throughout their communities and also across the country through the inter-library exchange. A library anywhere can request to "borrow" a book from another library. That's how books become widely circulated. We help authors get that start, that first big step.

As an Affiliate of the American Library Association, we have the backing of the most established and well-known library organization in America. There was a time when the stigma of being "self-published" hindered librarians from welcoming independent books into their libraries. Because of our work, connections with the library community, and our collection of outstanding authors and books, things are changing. Our independent author's books are excellent and just as educational, inspirational, and enjoyable as traditionally published books. We provide the training and resources to ensure our authors are honing their crafts, investing in professional services for their books, and publishing with excellence. In turn, we also support diverse booksellers so we can continue our message and example of diversity in the book industry. It is important that we help independent booksellers stay in business in this era of mega corporations and big-name recognition that draws readers away from experiences with diverse, small business owners.



LiteracyNation, Inc.

Q: Tell us more about what your organization is currently involved in?

We are preparing to attend the American Library Association's Annual Conference on June 28th, and we are bringing several self-published authors with us to take part in a panel discussion, our annual read-a-thon, and other activities that allow them to network with librarians from all across the country. We are an Affiliate of the American Library Association, and we have their support in our efforts to shine the light on independent authors. We have already made a tremendous difference in the way librarians view self-published authors and their books.

We are also hosting our First Annual Indie Authors Book Fair at the Philadelphia Convention Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on August 10, 2024. We are featuring excellent self-published authors from many states, all coming together to celebrate literacy and promote and sell their books. We are very excited about this book fair! We have some wonderful sponsors supporting us, and it is a great opportunity for authors of all genres. There will be a children's corner where children's authors can engage with children, read their books, and expand their following. Most of all, it's a great way for authors to meet each other in person after communicating and supporting each other on social media.

Authors can sign up on our website at www.LiteracyNation, Inc. We still have space available for you to come, set up your table, and sell your books.

Q: How do you approach working with self-published authors and libraries to support children's literacy development?

We have many librarians who are members of LiteracyNation, Inc. Several of them are children's librarians. They know the importance of exposing children to a variety of books. They understand the emotional benefit of seeing diverse characters in books. With book banning in several states across our country, librarians are very protective of children's books. They don't agree with what is going on because they want what's best for children. So, we consider ourselves as being on the same team.

We support children's literacy development through supporting authors, ensuring that more books are cataloged and circulated and made available to children and their communities. We donate books, our authors do visits to schools and libraries, both in person and virtually, and we invite librarians' feedback and input in our programs and event planning and decision-making. Working together, we have a greater impact and can make a difference in the strides children make in their literacy development.

Richard E. Ashby Jr.

**President LiteracyNation Inc.
An Affiliate Of The American Library Association**

Q: As a Library Director, what strategies do you employ to engage and motivate learners who struggle with reading or writing?

As a Library Director, I employ several strategies to engage and motivate learners who struggle with reading or writing. Here are some key approaches:

- 1) Diverse Collection: Ensure the library's collection includes a wide variety of materials suitable for all reading levels and interests, including audiobooks, graphic novels, and books with large print.
- 2) Personalized Recommendations: Offer personalized reading recommendations based on individual interests and reading levels to help learners find books that are engaging and accessible.
- 3) Reading Programs: Organize reading programs and challenges that motivate learners to read regularly and track their progress, providing incentives for reaching milestones.
- 4) Multisensory Learning: Use multisensory learning approaches, such as storytelling, music, and interactive activities, to make reading and writing more engaging and accessible.
- 5) Technology Integration: Utilize technology, such as e-readers and literacy apps, to provide additional support and resources for learners.
- 6) One-on-One Support: Offer one-on-one tutoring or mentoring programs where learners can receive personalized support and guidance from trained volunteers or staff members.
- 7) Community Partnerships: Collaborate with community organizations, schools, and literacy programs to provide additional resources and support for learners outside of the library.
- 8) Parent and Caregiver Involvement: Encourage parents and caregivers to be actively involved in their child's reading and writing development by providing resources and guidance.
- 9) Positive Reinforcement: Provide positive reinforcement and recognition for learners' efforts and achievements to build their confidence and motivation.
- 10) Continuous Evaluation and Adaptation: Continuously evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies being used, and make adjustments based on feedback and outcomes to ensure they are meeting the needs of learners.



Q: Why is diversity in books important to children?

It is crucial that ALL children see themselves in the books they read. They should also have stories that positively represent their lives, their culture, their families. This helps children to find comfort and a sense of belonging in the world around them. Books are the things that we present to children as most important, right? So, if they don't see any characters who look like them or the people in their lives, what message are we sending? What are we saying to them? That is not good; it's not right.

We have to let children know they belong, they matter, and we see them and accept them just as they are. Books are the perfect vehicle for that. It's how they learn. They can learn about themselves and others in positive ways. It helps build self-confidence and also acceptance of, and empathy for, others who are different from them.

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

Yes! Our message is: Come join us! Sign up at www.LiteracyNationInc.org. Come join LiteracyNation, Inc. and be a part of our movement to bring together the self-publishing community and the library community for the benefit of readers everywhere! Our members are authors of all genres, but children's authors, of course, hold a special place in our hearts because children are always our focus in our efforts to increase literacy.

We want the world to see the excellence of diverse, independent authors from all walks of life and all genres of books, coming together to promote reading and diversity – "With Literacy and Justice for All."

New Release

Grace Loves Her Neighbor

Negrta Smart

Negrta Smart is a best-selling children's book author. Grace Loves Her Neighbor is the second book of the children's book series featuring five-year old Grace who is the main character. Negrta is a Forbes Business Council Speaker and literacy advocate.

Negrta holds a Masters in Business Administration and insurance designation of Chartered Property & Casualty Underwriters. In her professional life, Negrta is an Instructional Designer and utilizes her skills to create course curriculum for various business areas. As an author, she is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators always looking to connect, share, and grow with fellow writers.

Negrta is driven to share life lessons with all children through story-telling messages of kindness, love, sharing, and helping others.

website: negrta-smart.com

available at
amazon



Five-year old Grace is a small girl with a big heart. When she sees a neighbor in need, she finds a way to help and shows us how much she loves her neighbor.

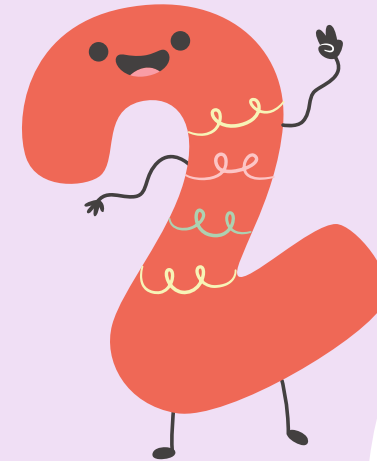
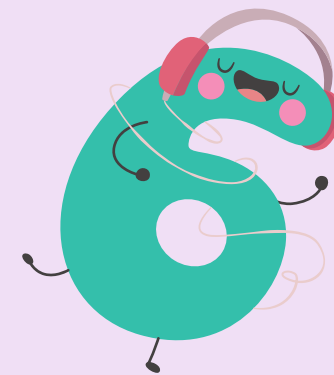
Grace Loves Her Neighbor has won the 2024 BookFest Award in the category of Children's Beginning Readers, and has been recognized for their contribution to the world of literature and books.



1 **KIDLIOMAG**

Poem

A Dispute Of Number



One day the numbers gathered ,
They held a meeting .
Everyone has their own opinion
See what he said .

Nol put his hand on his waist
He come to the middle stage
If you know , I'm great from everyone
He said suddenly.

Standing upright
One stands alone .
I am above all ,
Who can be to me the equal.

Why don't you take care of me?
I have a tail ,look!
My name is Two
The best in numbers .

At that moment he joined in ,
Three with double stomach
I am the king of numbers
All your talk is nonsense.

Four ascended the throne ,
Behaving like a king.
He wanted to plant
A word for each number .

If we are together ,we will gather
We are full of millions .
If we argue ,
We will be in a mess.

Since then,all numbers
They live harmoniously .
A million if necessary
They make it together .



8 **KIDLIOMAG**



Summer I Spy





Jane Escapes to the Jungle of Individuality

This heartfelt adventure follows a young girl named Jane as she tries to navigate the challenge of feeling different in her own skin while experiencing bullying at school. Though she is soft-spoken and quirky on the outside, she struggles on the inside—desperately wanting to belong. Escaping from an uncomfortable moment on the school bus, Jane has a vivid daydream where she enters the Jungle of Individuality: a place filled with animals who all have unique characteristics just like herself. As she embarks on an incredible journey of self-discovery with some new friends, she quickly realizes her individuality is something she should embrace while also learning self-compassion and to be brave when things get tough.

www.jennestorauthor.com

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I'm Jennifer Nestor. I am originally from Philadelphia, PA, and have a Master's Degree in Communications with a concentration in New Media Marketing. I have two sweet kitties, Hermione and Binx; and one Goldendoodle, Winnie. I currently live in Saint Augustine, FL and work in healthcare marketing. Some of my hobbies include writing, dancing, playing sports, yoga, attending baseball and football games, going to concerts, and boxing.

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

I have been writing since I was a little girl. I remember writing poems, song lyrics, and short stories growing up to kind of escape the world around me and get immersed in some sort of alternate reality. I would make these imaginative stories up in my head, and put them on paper, or floppy disks as a teenager once we had a computer.

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

I wrote my first story about ten years ago. While it wasn't published, I did have some articles published in magazines during my career, and also had a couple poems published when I was a kid.

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

Currently, my work in progress is my Children's Picture Book- Jane Escapes to the Jungle of Individuality. We are currently in the illustration process, and we just released a sneak peek of the cover on social media. It's been really exciting seeing this project come to life. This book is all about celebrating uniqueness and individuality. Jane is a humble and shy child who gets bullied on a regular basis at school and is beginning to lose her self-confidence. After entering a dream state where she finds herself in The Jungle of Individuality, she meets three special jungle friends who all have unique features and help guide her into self-acceptance and embracing who she is.

The story comes full circle at the end and allows the reader to join Jane as she learns about the true meaning of individuality and re-builds her self-esteem. By showcasing strong animal characters who embrace their unique qualities, it helps encourage readers to learn to love who they are. It is meant to help build confidence, particularly for children who may be struggling with their own sense of identity. There is also a mindfulness and meditation component to the story that can help positively impact one's mental and emotional state.

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

One day, I was just sitting down and thinking about what it would be like to write a story about a little girl who is highly relatable to those who sometimes don't have a loud voice and are more humble, quiet, and reserved. I thought about how interesting it would be to take a main character and put her in an imaginative daydreaming state, where she meets strong characters who essentially help guide her on this journey of self-acceptance and discovering bravery that she didn't even realize she had inside herself. When writing the book, I imagined Jane being a short girl with brown curly hair, blue eyes, and big red glasses, and my illustrator truly brought Jane to life in the best way possible.

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

I'd love to leave a message for my readers and share that the best line in the book relates to Jane finally coming full circle with her differences, and owning and embracing those beautiful things that make her who she is, which is where the term individuality came to light for me as the author. She says "My individuality makes me strong". I would love for my readers to remember that line from the book, and when things get challenging, knowing that as long as you stay authentic to who you are, everything will eventually fall into place. So the best advice I can give is to always embrace your individuality!

Here is the Kickstarter link for PreOrder-

www.kickstarter.com/projects/janesstory/jane-escapes-to-the-jungle-of-individuality

Jennifer Nestor



K	U	J	U	L	Y	M	B	U	N
X	R	A	I	N	B	O	W	R	T
Y	J	U	S	U	M	M	E	R	E
V	T	G	A	B	E	A	C	H	N
S	G	U	R	A	I	N	S	P	T
U	R	S	C	A	M	P	O	L	A
N	E	T	N	D	B	E	S	G	R
G	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	R	D
U	N	L	J	O	W	Z	R	Y	E
J	U	N	E	O	U	L	H	I	N

Summer Crossword

August

Sun

Summer

Holiday

Beach

Camp

June

July

Tent

Trip



Introducing Little Miss Super-Fro!

Everyone experiences worry from time to time, even children. Sometimes worry can motivate us to act or problem-solve. Problem-solving is an important life skill for children to practice as they navigate the challenges of life.

In this book, Raegan experiences worry after receiving an unexpected grade on her history test. She uses several evidence-based strategies such as prayer, deep breathing, positive self-talk, mindfulness, and visualization to cope. Finally, after sharing her feelings with her parents, she realizes that it is their love and acceptance that washes all the worry bugs away! Ages 7& Up.



Written By: Alona Joseph
Illustrated By: Laiba D.



Alona Joseph

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I currently live in a suburb of Atlanta Georgia with my husband, daughter and son. I'm a licensed professional counselor, college writing instructor and now author. My hobbies include writing, reading, traveling and spending quality time with my family and friends.

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

I've always enjoyed writing as a hobby and began writing short stories as a child. I can recall reading my stories to friends and family. My childhood dream was to become a children's author! As an adolescent, I enjoyed creative writing and began journaling and still do so today.

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

I began writing Introducing Little Miss Super-Fro a few years ago. It is the first book of my new series, Little Miss Super-Fro. The book was published in February 2024.

available at
amazon

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

The goal behind my books is to create engaging stories highlighting diverse characters that use healthy coping strategies to help manage their emotions.

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

I've spent most of my career working with children as a former school counselor and now children and adolescent therapist. I enjoy working with youth! My books reflect many of the coping strategies that I use therapeutically with clients.

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

Raegan, the main character of Introducing Little Miss Super-Fro, was created as a reflection of my desire to encourage youth to use resiliency to overcome life challenges.

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

The message that I want to leave for my readers from this book is that everyone experiences worry from time to time and it's okay. Sometimes worry prompts us to problem solve which is a very brave step to take!

Magical Elements of The Periodic Table

Presented Alphabetically By

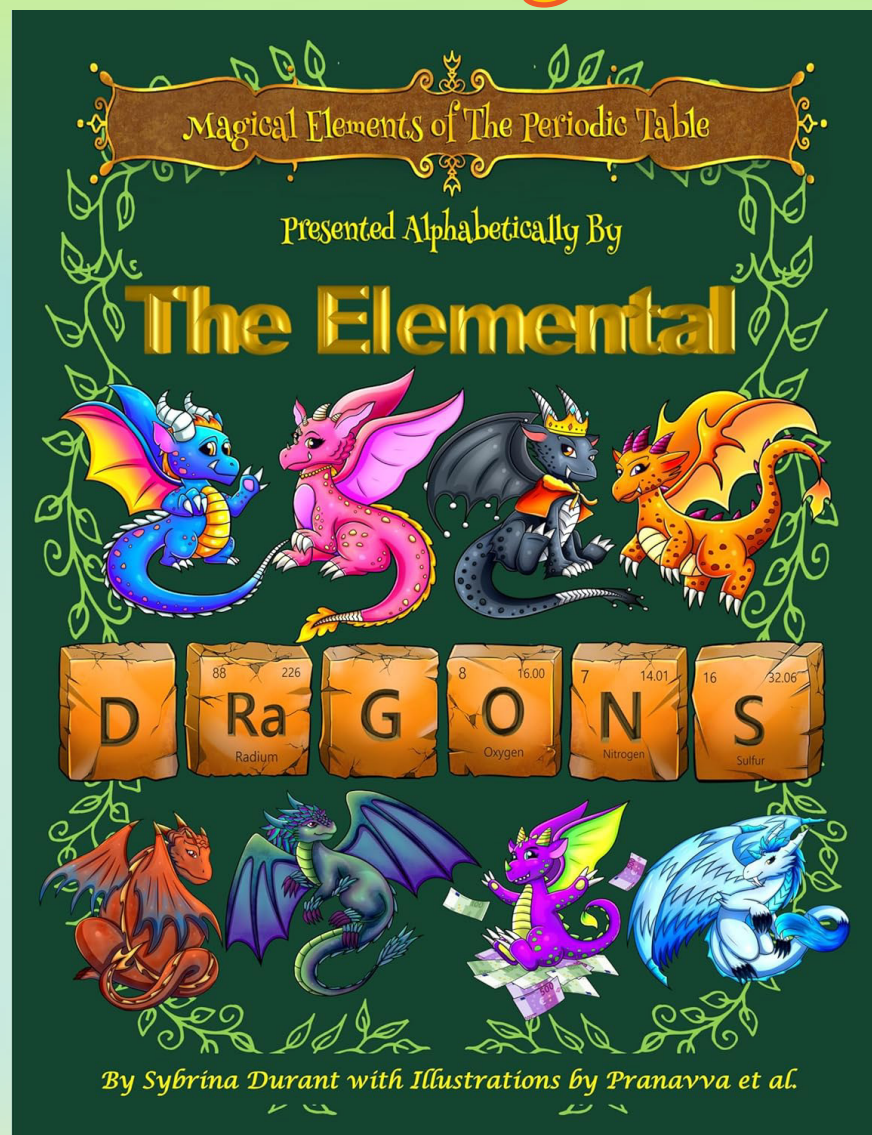
The Elemental Dragons

In this unique alphabet book, members of the Elemental Dragon Clan, present 26 Magical Elements of the Periodic Table in alphabetical order. Each member of the clan has an element tipped tail. They also have magical powers based on the properties of their metals. There are no more perfect groups than unicorns and dragons to familiarize with elements from the Periodic Table. Their theme is "No Metal, No Magic... and No Technology".

In this book, Antz starts out the book by introducing the very necessary metal, Antimony on his element page. Zora rounds out the alphabet by presenting scientific facts and other fun information about the metal, Zirconium, on her elemental page. In all, readers will get some great insight into the properties of 26 elements from the periodic table. Each Page is Full of Amazing Facts and Tons of Fun.

magicalptelements.com

available at
amazon



Sybrina Durant

Sybrina Durant is the author of the "Learn To Tie With The Rabbit and the Fox" series of books. The book with that name is available in English, Spanish and Tagalog plus a special little book to gift to boys in a wedding party. "Nellie Knows How To Knot A Neck Scarf", "Ned Knows How To Knot A Neck Tie", "Cleo Can Tie A Bow" and "Boo's Shoes" are also part of the series. Visit The Rabbit and The Fox Book Store on her blog to browse those books plus "Learn To Tie" books by lots of other authors.

Science

Match The Symbol Of Each Element To Its Name.

H

Nitrogen

O

Hydrogen

C

Oxygen

N

Sulfur

S

Carbon

Ahoy Pirates!

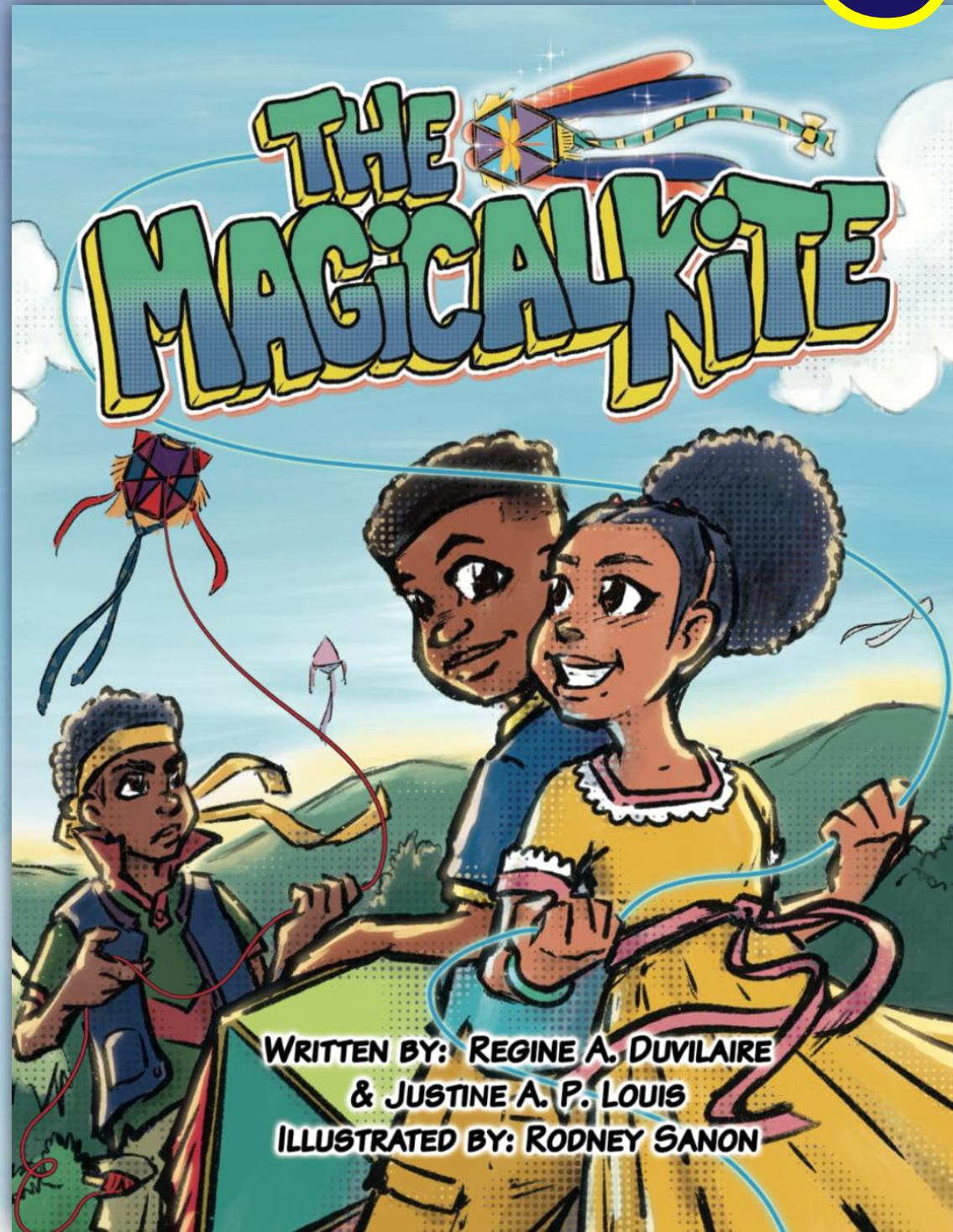
Activity

Find 10 Differences
Between The Two Pictures.



New Release

The Magical Kite



Justine A. P. Louis is an author and educator. Justine grew up in the Caribbean island of Haiti. Justine's childhood experiences and memories inspire her to write children's books that center around the Caribbean. The drive to represent and preserve Haiti's rich culture in books and to pass the language down to children, including her own, motivates Justine to write. Justine is also known for her published works on Haitian Creole phonology and for writing children's picture books: "Luke Visits Jacmel," "Queen of Dominoes," and "Dalia Explores the Haitian Creole Alphabet." During her free time, Justine enjoys writing, listening to music, traveling the world, and spending time with her wonderful family. Stay connected with Justine by visiting www.vivlivbooks.com



Justine A. P. Louis

Regine A. Duvilaire is a rehab professional and author who was raised in the magical island of Haiti. Regine loved reading many different types of books as a young girl such as short stories, action/adventure novels and historical fiction. As a rehab professional, Regine is committed to providing people with the tools that they need in order for them to live their lives to their highest potential. In her spare time, Regine enjoys spending time with her family, listening to music and podcasts, trying out new cuisine and planning road trips. Regine is grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with VivLiv Books on "The Magical Kite."



Regine A. Duvilaire

available at
amazon

The annual kite tournament is here! Anaïs and Alex are more than prepared and well equipped with their special kites, optimistic about this year's event. However, they face many obstacles. Challenging rounds, unpredictable events and even a mischievous competitor try to interfere with Anaïs and Alex's chances at success. Can the dynamic duo overcome these hurdles and become victorious in this year's kite tournament?

Dive into this magical and adventurous story which displays the art of kite flying, its traditions and versatility while also touching on family love and values. Following the conclusion of this book, children can enjoy coloring pages that relate to the characters in the story and kites!

Go Fishing!

"Follow The Fishing Line And Identify Which Fish Was Caught By Which Kid."





Ballet Beignet

Website
moorekidslit.com

available at
amazon



Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I love to write! I remember when my fifth grade teacher, Mrs. Fisher told me I wrote well. I dove into writing poetry and short stories. College, grad school and then my career as a professor has lead me to more academic writing but there's such beauty in writing children's stories, it was only a matter of time before I was took on kids literature.

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

It was my daughter's birthday and I wanted to buy her a book about a fairy. At the time, I couldn't find a book about a fairy that looked like her, with brown skin. So I wrote her a story and read it to her as a birthday present. The book was a hit with family and I was inspired to share it with the world.

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

My first children's book was published in 2020. It's titled Fairy Cornbread and is the first introduction to the character Zoe and her family. It's also available on Amazon.

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

Most of my children's books are inspired by my own family. The include important themes like education, culture, family and helping others.

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

As an educator, I understand the importance of literacy. I hope to inspire children to read more. Reading takes you places you may never go.

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

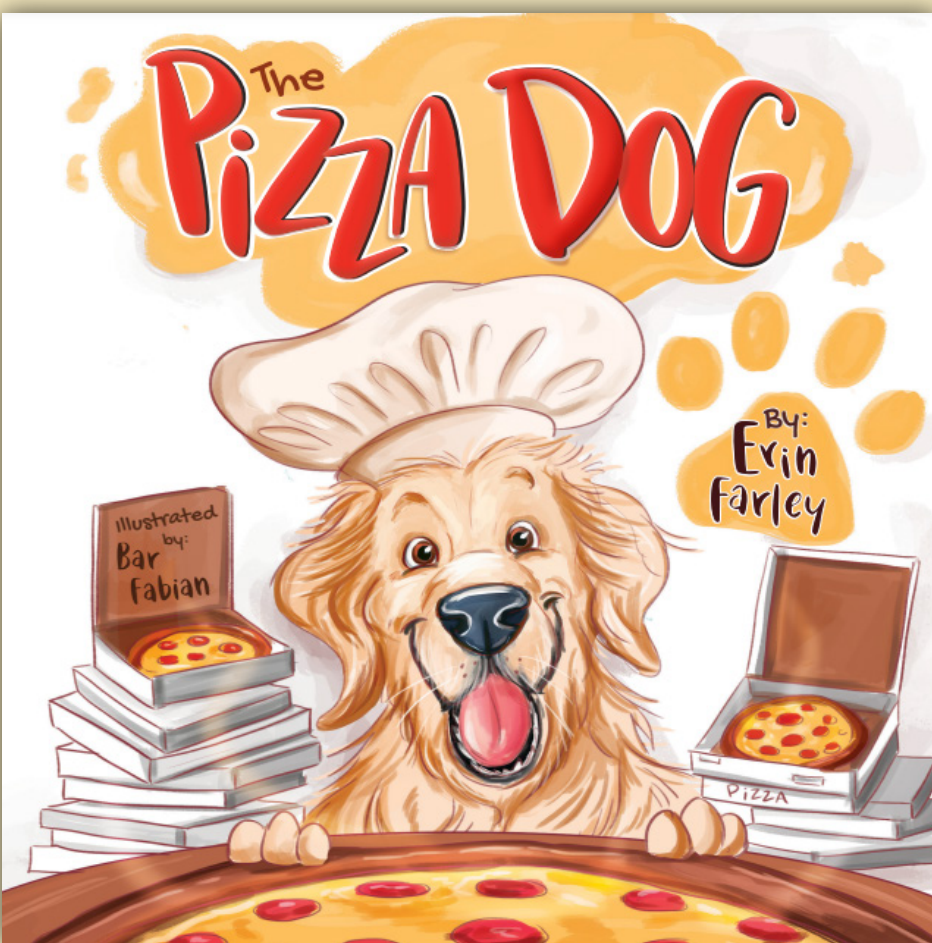
These characters are a reflection of my own family. I get excited to think that one day, my children's children will read stories about their parents and grandparents.

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

Always reach for your goals. Believe in yourself, have faith and always be a blessing to someone else.

Imagine this ... warm, soft beignets covered in powdered sugar. Sounds good, right? Zoe and her brothers couldn't wait to have a bite of beignets. A mistake in baking led Zoe to have specially made beignets that gave her magical ballet powers just in time for her ballet recital.

This magical story teaches children determination and perseverance as well as concepts like family and helping others. It's the perfect addition to your child's bookshelf!



The Pizza Dog

Zeppole, a goofy Golden Retriever, dreams of becoming a pizza chef like the town's miniature Italian Greyhounds. Zeppole doesn't think he has what it takes to make pizza like them, since, of course, he is much bigger and much clumsier. That is until one day he confides in a trusted friend who gives him the confidence to try something new.

available at
amazon



Erin Farley

Erin Farley, Author Erin had a passion for writing since she could hold a pencil. She received her Bachelor's in English and Political Science from Rutgers University. After seven years working in television advertising sales in the Big Apple, she switched career paths and pursued a law degree. She now lives in Hoboken, New Jersey, with her goofy Golden Retriever, Zeppole. She hopes to encourage children to set big goals and never be afraid to try new things.

PIZZA COUNTING

Help our friend the chef to guess how many slices are for each pizza



$\frac{7}{8}$



$\frac{\square}{8}$



$\frac{\square}{8}$



$\frac{\square}{8}$



$\frac{\square}{8}$



$\frac{\square}{8}$



Sandra Kitabjian

Three Pampered Pugs



Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I reside in Pennsylvania with my two French Bulldogs, Luna and Nora, and my brindle pug, Mabel. But before this current pack of pups, I had three pugs, Mia, Bella and Rocco, who were the inspiration for my books. I have been working in an educational setting for over 30 years. Because of my job, I have always been around young children and wanted to write lighthearted stories that would be entertaining and fun for them to read or have read to them.

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

Five years ago, I began creating stories inspired by my life and experiences with my three pugs. After reading what I had written to my daughter who is a preschool teacher, she encouraged me to get them illustrated, as she could picture herself reading them to her students. And so my journey began.

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

After dealing with the loss of my three beloved pugs, I began writing my first story in the series Three Pampered Pugs in 2019. I now have four books in the series.

They are available www.amazon.com or you could contact me through my website www.threepamperedpugs.com and I will happily send you a signed copy.

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

My books are based on the sweet memories I had with my pugs. From entering them in patriot pet contests, attending pet day at school to dressing them up for Halloween and taking them on a hayride, my books are light hearted and seem to be enjoyed by young children.

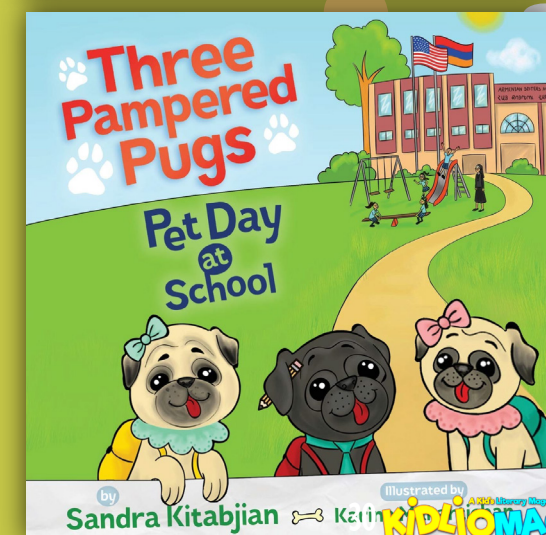
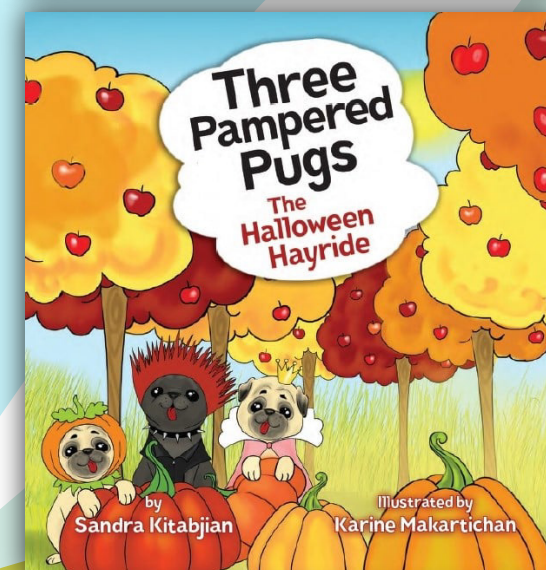
Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

What started out as one story written in their memory, quickly turned into a series of memorable tales about them. Written in rhyme and colorfully illustrated to delight young children, my collection now includes four books.

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

My message to my readers is if you have an idea for a story, write it. You never know what it could lead to. It's never too late to start writing.

available at
amazon



Japan



Japan Is Made Of More Than 6,000 Islands, Which Makes Japan An Archipelago, A Term Used For A Group Of Islands.



Japan's National Flower is Cherry Blossom

Tokyo Is The Largest City In The World

Japanese Castle Is A Fortress And Samurai Lord's Resident Constructed With Wood And Stone.



Some Well-known Dishes Of Japan Are Sushi, Sashimi And Tempura.



Samurai

Were Very Skilled Fighters And **Swordsmen.**

Their Main Weapon Was The Katana, A Sharp Sword With A Slight Curve To It.



Mount Fuji Is The Tallest Mountain of Japan

JO'S SPECIAL GIFTS



JO'S SPECIAL GIFTS

A heartwarming story celebrating the unique gifts each person brings into the world.

Join Jo, a remarkable autistic boy, on a colorful adventure celebrating his love for science, music, books, spinning wonders, and his trusty green bike. In this heartwarming tale told in rhyme and brought to life with enchanting illustrations, Jo's special gifts shine, teaching kids the beauty of embracing uniqueness. Explore the world with Jo, where noise-canceling headphones and AAC devices become symbols of understanding and acceptance.

A delightful journey that encourages children to celebrate their extraordinary minds!

available at
amazon



Mariam Shapera

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I am a mother, a family doctor, children's book author and an Autism advocate. I was raised in the United Kingdom but now live in California with my husband and three children.

Having to learn to advocate for my autistic son, Jo, I wanted to combine my love for writing children's books with my goal of increasing autism acceptance. I have observed countless times the way Jo pursues his interests and passions and the autistic joy they bring him. So this book, 'Jo's Special Gifts' was born.

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

When I was a teenager, I used to enjoy writing short stories and poems. During the COVID pandemic and after having gone through a stillbirth, I wrote my first children's book, titled 'Up Up You Go Jo!' It was inspired by my autistic son and his interests in outer space and music. My second book, 'Jo's Special Gifts', released this year in 2024, celebrates the amazing autistic brain and autistic traits.

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

My first book titled, 'Up Up You Go Jo!' was written in 2020 and published in 2021, shortly after the COVID pandemic.

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

Both of my books were inspired by my autistic son and his love for his interests. I wanted to increase awareness on autism and celebrate the amazing autistic brain as well as highlight and normalize some commonly seen autistic traits.

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

The character is my autistic son and the ideas came after observing him and seeing how deep his interests are especially to outer space and music. Throughout the last few years, I have seen him grow to have many talents and learn many skills. Working as an autism advocate for my son, I have had to unlearn and relearn many facts about autism and the neurodivergent brain.

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

My message to my readers is to be kind and accepting to the autistic population including autistic adults. An autistic brain is a different, not a lesser way of thinking and processing the world. These individuals have a basic human right, just like any other individual, to have access to communication and the right accommodations to be able to function daily. My second book aims to raise awareness on this and for families with non-autistic members to learn more about autism.

SELFIE IN THE JUNGLE

Guzzle was a jungle in the middle of a river. However, it was more like a tiny town with all the modern facilities.

Guzzle was ruled by a lion called Gizmo who was crazy about the latest gadgets. He had recently acquired a smart phone and fallen in love with its uses. He now spent most of the time clicking selfies with his wife Gazebo and his twins Geez and Goz.

One day his most trusted friend, Twitter the cuckoo, came to him and said, "O'King! Why don't we have a contest in Guzzle."

Gizmo, who was taking a selfie sitting on a rock and grinning to himself asked, "What kind of a contest?"

"It is your birthday tomorrow. On this great occasion let us have a 'Best Selfie Contest'. All the animals will be invited to participate. You will be the judge and the winner will get a chance to take an exclusive selfie with you."

"Sounds great, Twitter. Go ahead and organise it."

Next day all the animals of the jungle gathered in front of Gizmo's cave. One by one they walked up to the king and taking his smart phone tried their skill. Each animal was allowed two attempts. Gizmo told the score to Twitter who noted it down.

Angoor, the langur was among the first. He held the phone in his tail and raised it as high as it would go. He then turned his head, smiled and clicked.

Poor Hip-hop, the hippo tried to imitate Angoor but her little tail could hardly rise to the occasion. So all that appeared in the selfie was her huge backside.

Lambu, the giraffe with his 8 foot long tail clicked a couple of times and was greeted with a round of claps.

Zee, the chimpanzee held the cell in his hand and tried to click while jumping from one branch to the other. The phone fell from his hands but was luckily caught in mid air by Viral, the eagle. Gizmo was furious with Zee and disqualified him.

The last contestant was Megabite, the elephant. He picked up the cell in his trunk and raising it clicked. He then wrapped his tail round the phone and took another shot.

It was now time for the results.

"Guys, it was great fun. I think all of you did a wonderful job, except of course one who got too ambitious. I am very happy with the results."

There was a huge applause.

"It was not very difficult for me to pick up the winner. There was only one animal who could get two completely different angles – one from the front and the other from the back – Megabite the Elephant. He is the winner and will be crowned the Selfie Samrat."

The animals clapped their paws, beat their hooves and thumped their tails at the popular choice.

"Dear Gizmo, we have organised a special gift for you, which we hope you'll like," Gazebo said, handing over a 'selfie-stick' to her husband.

Gizmo was delighted with the present. "I love it," he said doing 'high-paws' with his wife and a few others.

"And now coming to Megabite's award! The only way he can take a selfie with me is if I get on his broad back," Gizmo said and everyone laughed.

Megabite went down on his knees and Gizmo gently climbed on to his back.

A few minutes later the most unique selfie in history was taken with Gizmo on Megabite's back, the selfie stick in the elephant's grip and both the king and the winner grinning from teeth to teeth and posing trunk to tail.

Ramendra Kumar



The Night I Spent In A People House

Douglas Berry

Hi!! I'm Douglas Berry, the author of the Jasper-n-friends book series. My two current books are "The Night I Spent in a People House" and "A Day at the Beach with Jasper and Friends". In each book, you get to follow along with Jasper the rabbit and his forest friends as they go on adventures!!!

Let's back up a little and see how I got to where I am today. I was never one of the popular kids in school, I pretty much kept to myself through High School. After High School, I joined the US Air Force, got married, and raised 2 great kids. I loved reading books to my kids as they grew up and I really liked giving each character in the book a different silly voice, I loved seeing them laugh and didn't care if the story made them laugh or my goofy voices did, as long as I made them smile.

Well, I always thought I'd like to try and write a book, but I never had a great story idea until my son caught a rabbit in the backyard, named it Jasper, and he and his sister kept him overnight in the house and let it go the next morning.

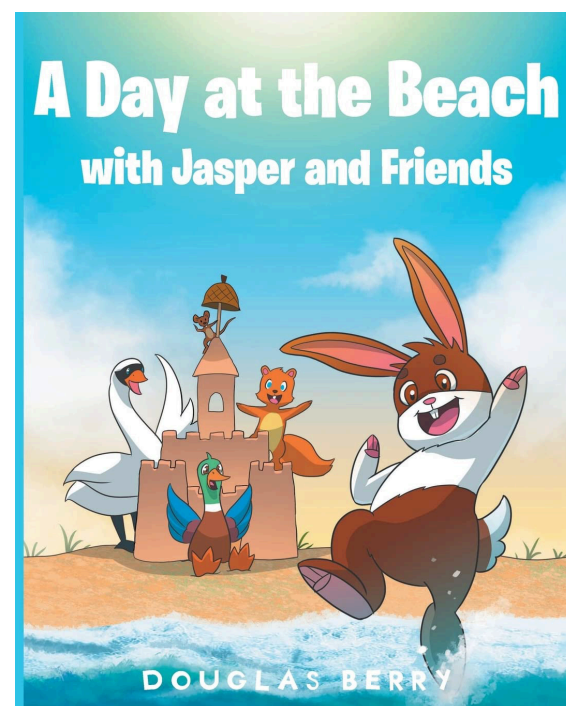
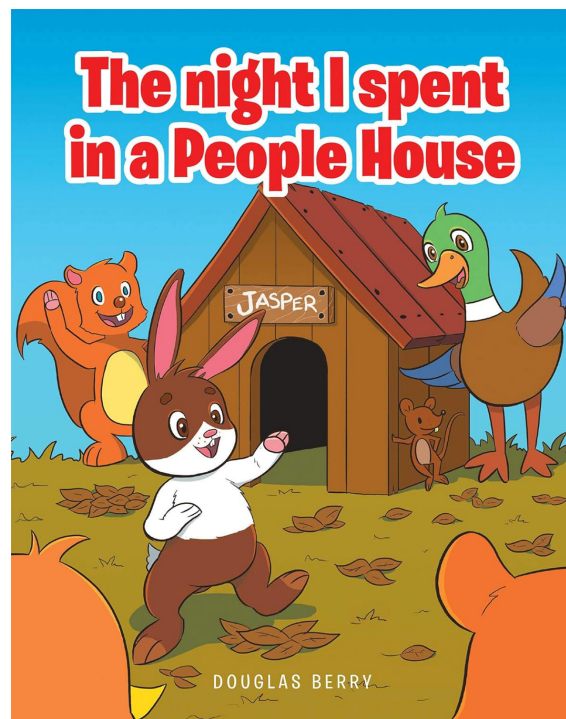
There it is!!! Here's my story for the book!! Just because I had finally written my story didn't mean getting it published would be easy, but I never gave up. It took me 10 years and 4 no's before I finally got a YES!!! and found a publisher to help me put my book together.

I thought family and friends would be the only ones that would buy my book....Wow, was I wrong, I quickly sold 500 copies and people started asking about a second book!!!

I hadn't given a second book much thought till then. After much thought, I decided to have Jasper and his friends take an adventure to the beach. It's a story about a new friend moving to the pond they all live around and telling them about this place called a beach she passed along the way.

Now there is a 3rd book written "Farmer Jasper". Jasper and his friends spend a day at their friend Mouse's farm, feeding the animals and planting a garden.

It's been a long journey and you never really know where it will lead you....but all the people that told me no, just made that one YES! So great!!!



SUMMERTIME FUNTIME

MY FAVOURITE
SUMMER TREAT!

MY SUMMER
BUCKET LIST:

MY FAVORITE
SUMMER HOBBY!

I TRAVELED TO?

I LOVED THIS
SUMMER BECAUSE



Years So Far...

"To our dedicated authors and loyal readers, your vibrant stories and passionate readership have been the essence of our magazine's journey over these four incredible years. Thank you for being the heart of our publication's story."



PICTURE BOOKS THAT PARENTS CAN LEARN FROM

shhh.....

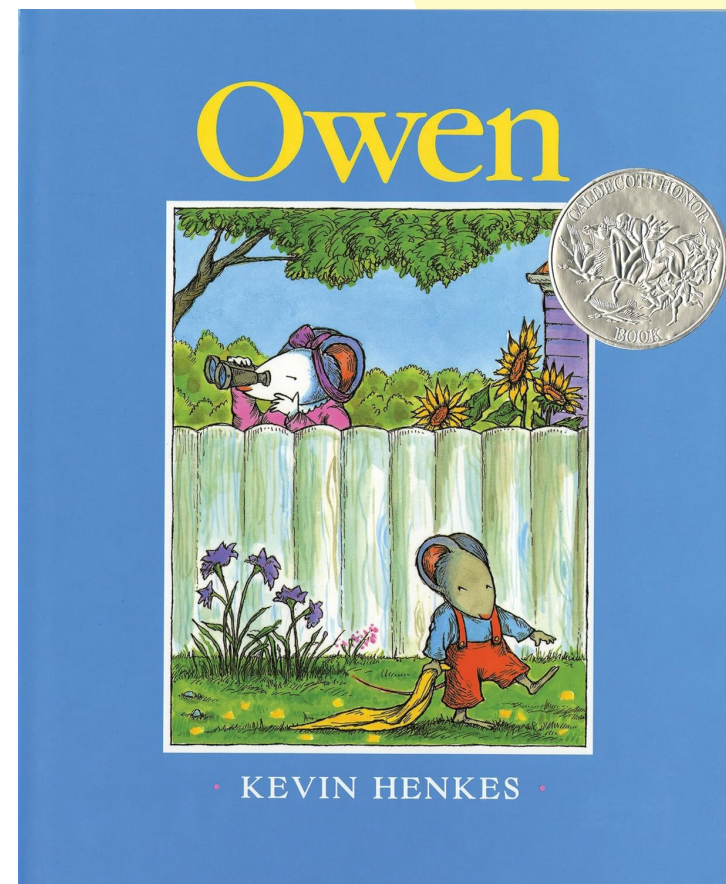
In the uncanny segment, I will make recommendations of picture books, for a parent, to read to themselves and derive a great deal of learning from. Yes, you read it right. Parent struggles are common, not unheard of and fairly similar to another parents set of struggles, and hence pretty often we find ourselves buried under a truckload of unsolicited advice from other parents or neighbors or just about anyone on helping our child settle in a new school, learn to share, stop nail biting, or something else that they may have dealt with too.

Those nuggets of advice are fun and useful, at times, but at other times they may be annoying and unwelcoming. We may want to deal with some issues by ourselves, going with parental gut, or anonymously posting on mom groups or discreetly grappling with confusion in our heads until we figure a way out.

So enjoy this little corner which can be a secret manual for grown ups and sneakily impart some wisdom to you as a parent when you read them out loud to your kids.



Article by
Jasneet Sethi
 Picture Book Author
www.storiesandbeyond.org



Owen By Kevin Henkes

Theme: Letting go of security objects, Transitioning and attachments

Pacifiers, twinkie or thumb, little binky, or fav little blanket- every tiny soother when the kids are babies are an initial soothing balms for parents during the struggling phase of new parents. Once a sigh of relief starts to become a cause of concern as the kids start to grow. These symbols of solace start to become parental concerns as they start posing threat to dental and emotional health. This book beautifully deals with such transitions from fondness to fear.

It's hard for Owen to let go of his Fuzzy- the most cherished possession- his fuzzy, wooly, soft and comfy yellow blanket. But it's even harder for his parents to help him

with this transition. They think and practice all sorts of traditional ways to help him but do not succeed. Until just before the school day, Owen's mom comes up with an idea of turning that big blanket into pieces of small handkerchief for him to carry in his pocket wherever he goes.



The background is a deep blue space filled with white stars. There are several planets: a large grey one with a ring, a red one with a ring, and a blue one. There are also several orange and yellow meteors streaking across the sky. On the left side, a white rocket with a yellow flame is launching, leaving a large white cloud of smoke.

Why Is The Sun So Hot?

BRAIN-G

- Why Is Space Cold If The Sun Is Hot?

Why Can't I Hear An Explosion In Space?

Why Is The Morning Sun Not As Hot
As The Midday Sun?

THINK! WHY? Answer?

Summer Words Scramble

Look At The Pictures And Arrange The Words Carefully.



S L
H L E



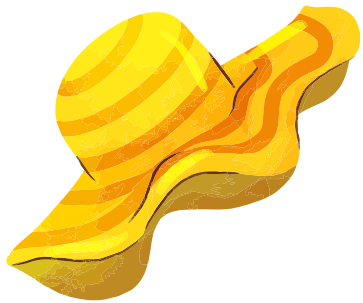
C R
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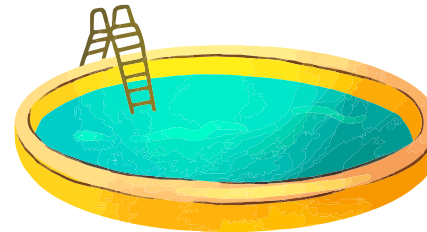
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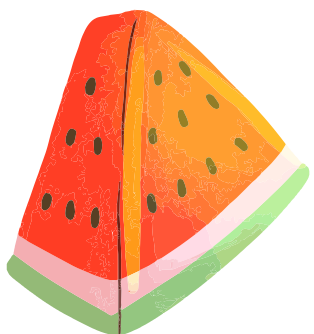
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S N
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DO YOU KNOW?

Dog Noses
Are At Least **40x**
More Sensitive
Than Ours!

Dogs Can Detect
High-pitched Noises And
Spot Sounds From Much
Further Away Than
Humans Can.

Ancient Egyptians
Saw Dogs
As **God-like!**

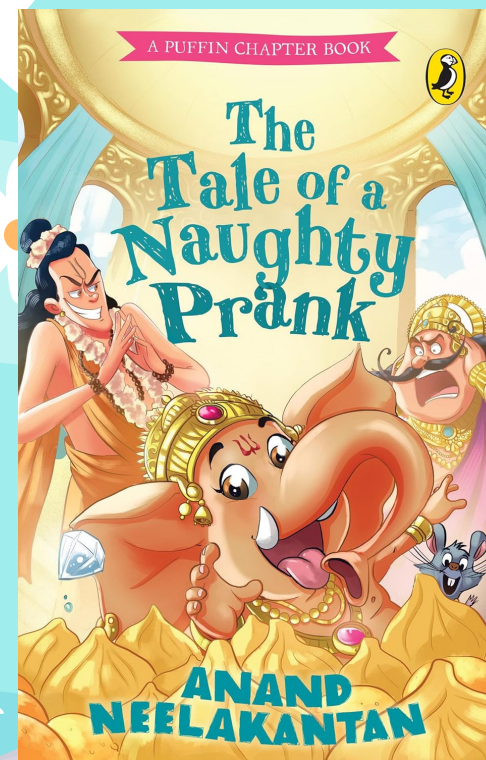
Many Dogs work as
assistance dogs,
helping humans!

They Can
Learn Over
100
Words And
Gestures!

Dogs
Are The Most
Popular Pet
On The Planet!



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Name: The Tale of a Naughty Prank

Author: Anand Neelakantan

Publisher: Penguin

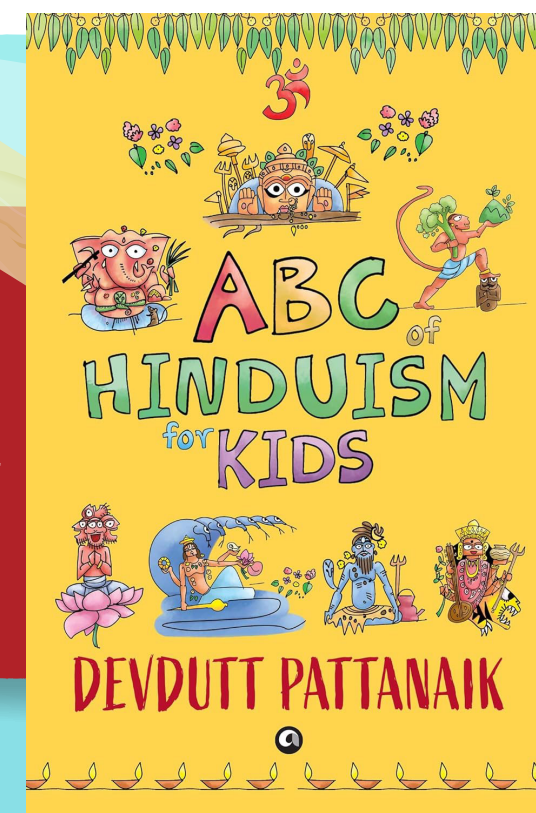
Description: Everyone knows that when the mischievous sage Narada is around, trouble can't be far behind. And this time, it follows him into the palace of Kubera, the god of wealth, who dreams of getting richer. Tricked by the master prankster Narada, Kubera decides to host Ganesha's birthday party. And the rest is...Narayana, Narayana!

This humour-filled tale with charming illustrations—the second in the chapter book series by bestselling author Anand Neelakantan—is packed with action, fun and dollops of laughter, making it a delightful read.

Name: ABC of Hinduism for Kids

Author: Devdutt Pattanaik

Description: Renowned mythologist Devdutt Pattanaik reimagines a Hindu way for young readers. Covering everything from major Hindu deities such as Brahma, the creator of the universe, and Devi, the powerful goddess who takes many forms, to complicated ideas of atma and the caste system, this book explores twenty-six ideas and figures from Hindu myth, each corresponding to a letter of the alphabet. With its simple writing style and fun, colourful illustrations, ABC of Hinduism for Kids is the perfect introduction to a Hindu way of life for your little ones.



Name: Mehar's World of Colours

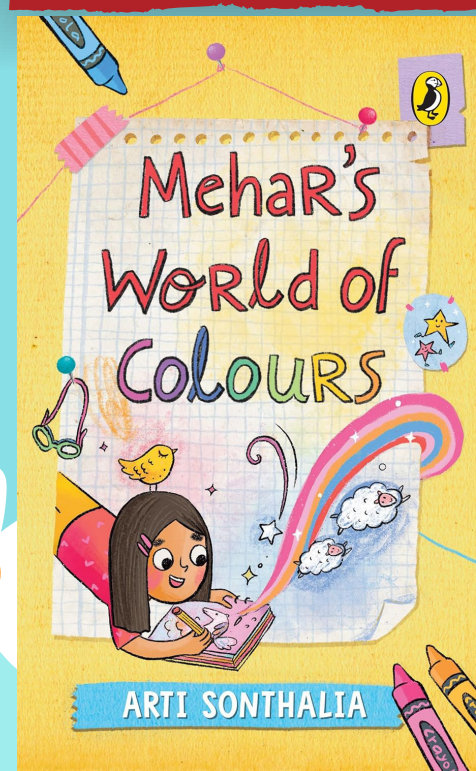
Author: Arti Sonthalia

Publisher: Penguin

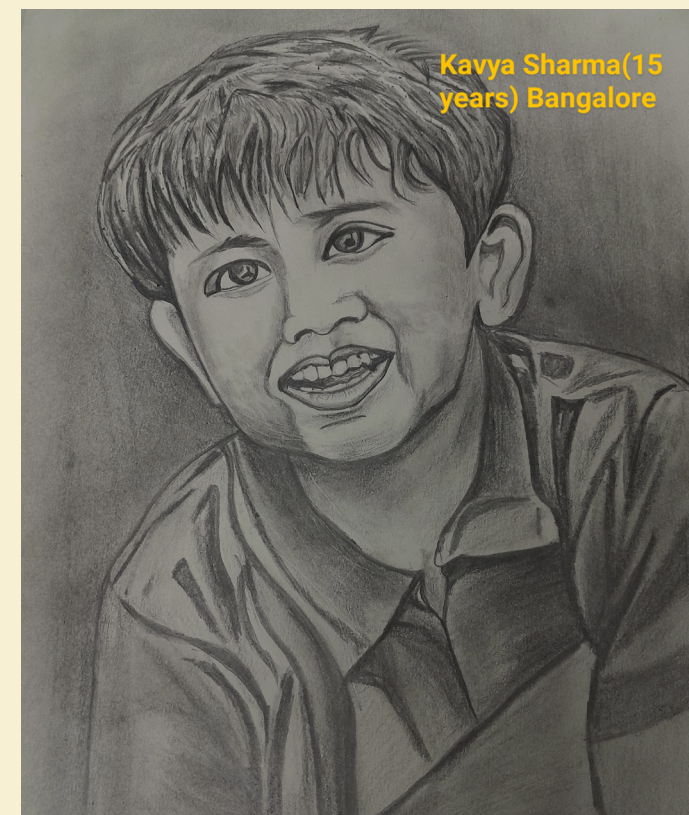
Description: Mehar loves books, art and colours and wants to make her own comic book one day with her best friend Ananya. But her mom wants her to swim like her big sister Saanvi and win competitions and medals.

When her school offers an after-school activity class to learn comic-making, Mehar is super excited and wants to sign up for it. But will her mom approve of anything that will make her miss swimming practice?

Dive into Mehar's colourful world as she works hard to make her dreams come true!



Creative Corner



Happy Mother's Day



www.Kidliomag.com



A Kid's Literary Magazine
KIDLIOMAG