June Issue 2024 Free A Kiels Literary Magazine

Sierra & Star Cherise Arthur

Berkley The Dog In A Noseful of Trouble David Hillman

Victoria and Yellowknife's Big Canadian Adventure Mario Cutulle

Lucas The Lion Makes a Friend Ana Cecilia Moreno

Trauma That Metamorphosis Into A Butterfly Princess Hill

EXCLUSIVE

★ E.I.G.H.T. Initiative Anna Dieme Miss Central Maryland 2024

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Cover Stor

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> Patchwork Pollera Dr. Orissa DePass

Yara Moon And The Unexpected Gift Blake Denson

> Five Forest Friends Angela Nuttall

Dream Big: Peyton's Hip-Hop Adventure Paula Banks

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Editor's Note

Dear Young Explorers,

Happy Environment Conservation Day! Today, we celebrate our beautiful planet and the incredible ecosystems that thrive within it. From the towering rainforests to the mysterious ocean depths, every corner of Earth holds wonders waiting to be discovered. But here's the secret: You are the key to conservation.

We've packed this issue with fun activities, interesting facts, and inspiring stories that will empower you to be an Eco-Hero. As we flip through the pages of this issue, we'll discover the wonders of the Earth and understand why it's up to us, the stewards of nature, to protect it. From the tiniest ant to the tallest tree, every creature and creation plays a pivotal role in the tapestry of life.

Imagine if every child planted a tree, picked up litter, or turned off the tap while brushing their teeth. These small acts add up to a big impact. So, let's be Eco-Heroes together. Remember, every day can be Environment Conservation Day. Let's promise to care for our planet, not just today, but every day.

29 Happy exploring, little adventurers! With green wishes,

Dhruvin Dharmendra

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Dhruvin Dharmendra



Cherie Okonski

Cover Story GOMPERSS CIRCLE OF LOSSE

"Gumper's Circle Of Love", is a story about a little bunny, whose wish to belong somewhere comes true. Gumper learns a timeless lesson about being different while touching hearts and discovering an unbreakable bond of love and friendship.

This charming story is the authors second book in the Gumper and Oink series.

Q: Tell us something about yourself.

I love art and consider myself an artist who writes. First I see visual pictures in my mind, and then I paint the story with words.

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

Writing in a diary was very important to me as a young girl. I grew up an only child and would write down my experiences and feelings since I didn't have any brothers or sisters to share them with. I would also write about the imaginary world of all my stuffed animals. I wondered what their worlds were like. Each stuffed animal had a name and a different personality. It was my own magical world of wonder and creativity.

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

I wrote my first "official" story about 25 years ago. It was called, "The Tale of the Rabbit with Short Ears". I picked the story back up about 4 years ago, edited it, and changed the title to, "The Secret of Gumper the Rabbit ", which was published in 2022. The next book in the series, "Gumper's Circle of Love was written and published in 2023." The Secret of Gumper the Rabbit", was also translated into Spanish in 2023.

Q: Tell us something more about your books



The main character in my book series, Gumper the Rabbit, is based on an imaginary story about a dwarf bunny I adopted from a pet store when I lived in Southern California. Since I was a child I have always loved the Disney character, "Thumper the Rabbit", from the movie, "Bambi". The rabbit I adopted from the pet store looked different than most bunnies because he had short ears. Instead of naming my pet,"Thumper the Rabbit", he became "Gumper the Rabbit". That's how the main character in my books got his name.

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

When I chose my bunny from the pet store, he shared a pen with other bunnies and one guinea pig. I imagined my bunny and the guinea pig being best friends. Oink seemed to be the perfect guinea pig name, so that's what I called Gumper's best friend. Everybody needs a friend in life and sometimes they seem like unlikely pairings. A rabbit and a guinea pig is a different combination and I imagined how their personalities could compliment each other. Gumper and Oink do exactly that. The employee's name at the pet store I adopted Gumper from was named Shell in real life. So, in my stories, the pet store became known as Shell's Pet Store.

Q: Do you want to leave a message with your readers?

I created the fictional character, Gumper the Rabbit, to make a difference in the lives he touches. Gumper has a heart-shaped nose which symbolizes love. He is born different with small ears which symbolizes that we are all unique and born with different gifts and talents. As Gumper hops into the lives of children and families everywhere, he teaches us that differences are a gift and kindness is cool.



GUMPER'S CIRCLE OF



THE SECRET OF GUMPER THE RABBIT



WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY CHERIE OKONSKI





Author Interview

Dream Big: Peytons Hip-Hop Adventure

Get ready to groove along with Peyton as she captivates the stage with her infectious beats and attitude! "Dream Big" is a heartwarming tale that inspires young readers to embrace their passions, express themselves through music, and chase after their dreams with unwavering determination.



Q: First tell us something about yourself.

Hey there, I'm Paula, 46 years young, happily married with two awesome grown sons. I've recently ventured into the world of children's book authorship, and I'm thrilled to announce that my debut, "Peyton's First Day at a New School," hit shelves this past February. Even more exciting, the second installment of the series, "Dream Big: Peyton's Hip-Hop Adventure," is slated for release in May. While writing isn't something I do fully just yet, I'm hustling to make that dream a reality. When I'm not writing stories, you'll catch me vibing to hip-hop beats or indulging in classic TV shows and movies. Despite being a New Yorker at heart, I've happily settled down in Virginia, where I find solace and inspiration in the cozy comforts of home.

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

When I started reading the Babysitters Club book series by Ann Martin. That is what ignited my passion for writing. When I discovered her books, I knew I wanted to emulate her style. Now, with my book series, Peyton's Journeys, I'm living that dream.

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

My first crack at writing a story goes back to high school when I was a freshman. Honestly, I can't recall what it was about. And, well, it never made it to the publishing stage.

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

Peyton's Journey" is this amazing book series featuring a spirited 8-year-old African American girl. She's all about fun and learning life's lessons along the way. Peyton might be a tad chubbier than her friends, but that doesn't hold her back from doing what she loves.

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

I think because I am just a big kid at heart. Writing for kids also allows me to use my imagination and be creative.

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

The idea for Peyton's Journeys popped into my head one night while I was chilling on the couch with my husband. It just came out of nowhere! I grabbed a pen and started jotting down my thoughts, and before I knew it, Peyton's Journeys was born.

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

Pursue your dreams. Regardless of your age or circumstances, you owe it to yourself to chase what you want. It took me 46 years to act on a dream that had been hidden in my heart. Don't wait like I did—be better, pursue your dreams NOW!



Paula Banks





Identify The Organic, Plastic, Paper and E-waste Waste And Organise Them In Their Respective Dustbins



ORGANIC

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Bentley Makes a Dump Cake Miki Taylor Eunhye Shin Author Mixi Taylor 9KIDLIONA

Cover Reveal

Roll up your sleeves, sprinkle a dash of joy, and get ready for a tale that bakes up fun, friendship, and a little fur-covered chaos in the kitchen with Bentley, Betty & Mr. Bee!

But wait, wait, wait, there's a twist in today's adventure – they're swapping their normal outdoor adventures for a culinary journey, with none other than George Giraffe, baker extraordinaire, leading the apron-clad trio. With whisk in paws and hands and a recipe ready for disaster, they're set to whip up a storm in "Bentley Makes a Dump Cake."

"Bentley Makes a Dump Cake" is more than just a story; it's an invitation to children, parents & grandparents alike to put on their chef hats, dance through disasters, and discover the joy of creating something spectacularly spectabulous together. Because in the end, it's not really about the cake; it's about the adventure in the attempting—and the friends who giggle along with you.

Dive into this deliciously delightful tale and join Bentley, Betty, Mr. Bee, and George Giraffe on an adventure that promises laughter, lessons, and a lick or two of scrumptious success. It's time to bake, dump, and make some fantastically funtabulous memories!

Follow her on Instagram, @MikiTaylorAuthor, for more sneak peaks, updates, a contest or two, and some clues as to what scentsational, fantabulous inclusion will be added to this SuperDuperFabulisticWowieDogilicious picture book and don't forget Bentley's World.

Dive into the whimsically wonderful, award-winning website of Bentley's World! This isn't just any ordinary web_ site—it's your ultimate online playground filled to the brim with free, funtabulous activities, marvelously magical coloring pages, and book guides that take you on grand adventures through Bentley's books.

Exclusive Merchandise

And here's the cherry on top of this funtastical sundae: exclusive Bentley & The Crew merchandise! From wowie coolilistic apparel to whimsical keepsakes, there's something special for everyone, including the Special Edition 2023 Children's Book of the Year, Bentley's Fantabulous Idea. Perfect for fans young and old, our merch is designed to bring a splash of Bentley's magic into your everyday life.

Activities and Coloring Pages

Ready for some creative fun? Dive into our treasure trove of activities and coloring pages. Whether you're a kid or just a kid at heart, you'll find hours of enchanting entertainment that will make your imagination soar.

www.MikiTaylor.com.

Live the Adventure

Every click on Bentley's World is a ticket to excitement! Don't just read about the adventures-live them. Explore, play, and let your imagination run wild. Bentley's World is where fun meets fantasy, and every visit is a new adventure waiting to unfold.

> Ready to be whisked away? Start your magical journey now at

> > www.MikiTaylor.com. Live the fun, love the fantasy!

Meet the Characters

Get to know Bentley and the crew like they're your friends next-door! Our character bios are bursting with life, bringing each fun-loving personality to your screen. Discover their quirks, their stories, and why they're the heart and soul of Bentley's World.

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David Hillman

available at amazon

www.twobridgespublishing.com

Author Interview Berkley The Dog In A Noseful of 4 rouble

Berkley has a huge nose and is always sticking it where it doesn't belong, always getting into trouble. Can Berkley ever find a way to put his super sniffer to good use? This is a fun and funny story of how being a little bit different can be an asset, not a disadvantage.

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

Starting his career in professional illustration at the age of 19, David Hillman has worked in such fields as comic books, storyboards, and licensing. But there was always that love for children's books, and David decided that was how he wanted to continue with his creative journey. David lives in New York City, and when he's not writing, illustrating, creative directing, and publishing children's books, he's making the world's best roast chicken for the Missus.

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

"During the pandemic years, I had time to sit down and further develop my voice and my own distinct craft. As an Illustrator I started drawing when I was six. My dad gave me a notepad and I started drawing Spiderman's face. When I was thirteen, I learned I could make a living drawing - that's something I could be. I knew exactly what I wanted to do at thirteen. The dream reinvented itself over the years, but it set me on my path to drawing and I've been at it ever since."

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

David decided to challenge himself and committed to establishing his own creative platform, Two Bridges Publishing.



"Two Bridges will bring a unique voice to a very crowded room. My goal is to take what I've learned over the past 30 years of experience and make children's books as enjoyable as possible. I want to make funny stories children will want to re-read, and the strength may be in illustration. I hope it will inspire new artists. I want to give back the inspiration I received growing up to children today. I'm in the fortunate position to do what I want and help make other people happy.""In the story, Berkley takes what makes him different but uses it to his advantage. This book is about diversity and loving who you are. If I met a dog like Berkley, we would definitely get along.

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

"Berkley's been in my head for years. At first it was titled, Sniff. I knew the dog had to have a huge nose, but I found another book titled Sniff the Dog. It took me a while to come to the name Berkeley. The dog had to be the star. I worked with a good freelance editor. That's where I found my voice and my style. A good editor doesn't want to change what you have, but instead, makes what you have better."

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

To artists interested in illustrating kids' books, he advises, "Get to know your audience. Who are you creating these books for? And you have to know the parents who are buying the books for children. They are the first gatekeepers. If the parents aren't going to dig it, the child won't be exposed to it either.







The Unexpected Gi

And The Unexpected Gift

What is The Unexpected Gift? With love, patients, and each other, a loving Mommy and Daddy navigate life with their daughter. Early on in her life the parents were told of her unexpected gift of Down Syndrome. Their lives would be forever changed. As Yara Moon began to grow her unexpected gift began to show. She over comes hard realities that many with special needs have to endure. This book was written from real life experience with the hope to shed light on the ups and downs of life with a child with special needs. Yara Moon shows that she was the unexpected gift the entire time.

Written By Blake Denson

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

My name is Blake Denson and I am a father of three beautiful baby girls: Yara, Iyla, and Olyver. I am married to my wife Alexis Denson and I am an international Opera Singer. Also growing up I never knew I had dyslexia.

Illustrasted By

Flavio B. Silva

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

My journey with writing is fairly new. I only started about half of a year ago but the idea of writing I have had since I was young. My older brother used to write and illustrate children's books and novels much like the Harry Potter stories. He would have multiple journals full of stories and would sit and read them to me.

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

Yara Moon and The Unexpected Gift is my first book. It will be available on May 15, 2024.

Q: Tell us something more about your book.

This book is actually based on my real-life experiences with my first daughter. My first daughter was born with the unexpected gift of Down syndrome.

I wanted to write this book because I saw there was a void in the children's book space when it came to children with special needs. I wanted to create a character that children with special needs could relate to as well as children without special needs. The special-needs community is such a small and unique community I wanted to create a fun tool to introduce what special needs could look like.

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

Yara Moon, the character came to mind by seeing the ups and downs that she went through in her own life. The character is actually my own daughter. The pictures are based on real-life pictures we took over those two years of our lives. The booking itself was actually easy to write because I was able to go back and look at pictures and have all of these memories. Come flooding back to me from these real lifetimes that we went through.

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

I would love to leave a message to the readers and tell them that I love them and thank you so much for your support. My family really just wanted to create this book out of our vulnerability. We wanted it to be read by children, plant a seed of understanding, and also have real life experiences that parents can relate to. Thank you so much and I hope you enjoy it!





available at

amazon





Recipe

Mango Smoothie!

Ingredients-

1 Chopped Ripe Mango 1/2 Cup Milk 1/4 Cup Plain Yogurt

1 Tablespoon Honey

emenace a

11/4 Cups Granulated Sugar 6 Cups Cold Water 5 To 8 Lemons (1 Cup Of Juice) Lemon Slices Or Fresh Mint, Garnish

Steps-

1) Place The Mango, Milk, Ice, Yogurt, And Honey In A Blender.

2) Blend Until Smooth And Frothy.

3) Top It Off With Some Ice.

Enjoy your Smoothie!

Ingredients-

Steps-

1) Mix The Sugar With The Water Untill The Sugar Dissolves Completly

> 2) Add The Lemon Juice In The Sweet Water

3) Garnish With Mint Leaves Or Lemon Slices.

Enjoy Your Lemonade!

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Author Interview



Five Forest Friends

A heart warming story of kindness and friendship.

Four forest friends, Hoggy the hedgehog, Mimi the magpie, High Top the hare and Oakley the owl, find themselves homeless, when the oak tree where they live is chopped down.

They search and search for a new place to live, until Matilda the field mouse invites them to live with her.

Friendship blossoms turning four forest friends into five and they all live happily in the old sycamore tree.

Pepper The **Runaway Dog**

The story of Pepper is aimed at children who are experiencing a baby brother or sister coming into the family.

The feelings of insecurity and uncertainty they feel about this new addition and the possible changes it will bring to their life are echoed through Peppers own experience.

Hopefully, Pepper's happy ending will reassure them that there is plenty of love to go around and nothing in their world has really changed.







Q: First tell us something about yourself.

A: I've always loved writing and from a young age I dreamed of becoming an author. I now have two children's books available but I also write adult novels under the pseudonym of A G Nuttall. Besides writing, my hobbies include gardening, baking and reading. I was born in a little town called Rochdale in the United Kingdom.

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

A: My writing journey began in my late fifties during the pandemic when I had unlimited time available. Before this I was a busy mum of two beautiful children with little time for my own ambition.

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

A: My first children's book, Pepper The Runaway Dog, was published in November 2023 followed earlier this year by Five Forest Friends.

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

A: My storybooks are aimed at children between ages 4 and 8. They both contain moral and amazing illustrations, one of which has won a Golden Wizard Book Prize. Pepper The Runaway Dog follows the story of a dog who runs away because he thinks the new baby in the family means that he has been replaced. When he realises that his family are searching for him he returns home to discover that there is enough love for him in the family as well. Five Forest Friends is a story of friendship and kindness. When the owl, the hedgehog, the magpie and the hare find themselves homeless, their tree having been chopped down, the fieldmouse offers them a place to stay and friendship blossoms between the five animals.

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

A: I find most of my inspiration occurs during the night when ideas randomly awaken my imagination.

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

A: I really hope that your children enjoy reading my books as much as I enjoyed writing them!







Observe The Image And Answer The Following Questions

How Many Pigs And Chicks Are There All Together?

How Many Pigs, Cows And Chicks Are There All Together?



Author Interview

Patchwork Pollera Dr. Orissa DePass







Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I am Dr. Orissa DePass, an educator of many years. I live in Georgia and have one adult daughter named Clemencia. My mother, also named Clemencia was born in the country Panama. My first book, Clemencia, A Panamanian Cinderella was written to share the beautiful culture of Panama.

When I am not writing children's stories, I am planning student events or relaxing on a beach. I am very excited to continue writing and publishing more children's stories.

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

My journey as a writer began in 1995 when I was a student at the University of Georgia. My assignment was to take a famous children's story and write my own variant of it. I chose the fairy tale, Cinderella and I wrote a Panamanian variant of it to represent my culture. My professor said it was well written and I should publish it.

Well over 25 years later, I finally published it! Today I have just published my second book.

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

My two published books are set in Panama. Panamanians have a beautiful and unique culture that is not frequently represented in literature. We are Hispanic people of various races who have the most beautiful traditional clothing in the world. Both of my books include the pollera, our traditional dress of Panama.

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

I use the setting of Panama because I love this culture and the people. The characters in my book Patchwork Pollera are named and modeled after family members.

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

I hope my readers will continue to read and discover beautiful happy places in this world. We live amongst so much diversity and creativity that can be discovered through books.



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





Activity

Environment Words Scramble Look At The Pictures And Arrange The Words Carefully.







All Books Are Available on Barnes And Nobles and Amazon

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

My name is Cherise Arthur and I am a retired educator and currently teaching a class at a local college on writing and self publishing. I grew up on a farm and always loved animals and writing as a kid. I was lucky enough to have ponies and horses as a child as well as dogs, cats, ducks and even a raccoon. Dad brought him home one day and he was very small. We named him Rocky.

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

I have always loved writing as a child and it was my favorite subject in school. I find the use of words and grammar say a lot about you as a person. I wrote many stories and was inspired by my Grandmother who wrote a story for us when we were children and illustrated it. I like to be out in nature and observe the natural world and I also love to watch people. I have a wild imagination still as an adult and make up stories about people and what their stories might be.

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

I got serious and wrote Sierra and Star in 2020 and I self published it on Amazon and a book and ebook. That was an exciting adventure to find an illustrator.. I learned about ScBWI and prior to that I was very involved with Willamette Writers Group in Portland, OR and I volunteered at their conferences. I met and talked to amazing authors and screenwriters and the more classes and seminars that I went to the molre I became confident in my writing and pursuing other projects. I was able to get into a local author fair and my local library and to get Sierra and Star in three Sierra was the name of the horse I was riding at the time. local libraries.

Q: Since you've been published what other opportunities have you had as a writer.

I am teaching and am now volunteering for the Oregon Donkey Sanctuary and American Wild Horse Conservation and wrote a song and created a video for my speaking engagements to teach the public about our wild horses and burros. Reading and writing can open your career up to amazing opportunities.

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

Sierra and Star is about a young girl who wishes for a pony. She does not like dolls and wants more than anything to have a pony. On her 8th birthday she is surprised to get a pony and their amazing adventures together begin. This is loosely based on me as a child and wanting a pony. My second book Bella and the Queen's ponies is a modern day fairy tale. Bella gets lost in the woods and must get help. She comes upon a magical herd of Dartmoor Ponies, talking owls, singing mice and the beautiful Queen Lillian who teach her lessons about kindness and helping each other. My current book is titled Oliver's Magical Adventures. It is a fun book about a boy who makes a wish on a carousel and takes a wild ride on a zebra in the park. It is very cute and funny and little kids love this story. All books are available on Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

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

Sierra and Star came to me while riding my horse one day. I like the name Sierra and actually



I thought it would be a nice book for your girls who long to have a pony or a horse and it is a sweet story. After a vacation to London and Paris, I learned about these really cute Dartmoor Ponies and thought it would be a fun book to write. It became very magical as I learned the area I was writing about was once considered magical and pixie led. I created some magical characters in my mind and had a blast creating this book. The mice sing and the owl gives the character some wonderful advice. Queen Lillian is magical and sweet - I love this book and the story. All my books have a bit of magical touch to them. Oliver's Magical Adventures is my first book with a boy character and he decided to make a magical wish. The takes a wild ride on a carousel zebra and kids love this story. It is funny and other carousel animals must find a way to get them back to the carousel. I have always loved horses and carousels and loved creating this fun story for children. I also learned a lot about the carousels all over the United States and in Europe as well.

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

Readers making great writers. Reading can take us to magical places and hopefully inspire you to maybe one day want to venture into the field of writing. I suggest becoming friends with your local library staff. They are interesting people and can help you as you research for school projects or find books of interest that you like. Get a library card at a young age! You will always love visiting libraries and maybe one day we will see your book on the shelf. Keep reading and writing. It is really good for your brain development for young children too, Have a magical day!





New Release LOCAS THE LOON MAKES A FRIEND

UCAS THE LION Makes a friend

Lucas the Lion Makes a Friend is about a lonely lion looking for a friend. He is a good king and takes care of the jungle. He takes his royal responsibilities seriously. The animals are afraid of Lucas because he is a lion and top of the food chain. Throughout Lucas's journey to find a friend, we learn that doing the right thing can be hard and it isn't always rewarded. It also reinforces the idea and teaches us that real friendship has to be earned. The ability to give others a chance and look beyond appearances is a gift, which can make life beautiful.

available at

I Just Had Some Green Coloured Ice Cream. IT WAS MINT 00

Ana Cecilia

Ana Cecilia Moreno is a working single-mother and daughter of Colombian immigrant parents. She has a Bachelors in Communications. She lives in Miami, Florida with her son and loves to explore different creative outlets. She was inspired to write this story while she was pregnant with her son fifteen years ago. It has been her dream to publish it ever since. "Lucas the Lion Makes a Friend" is her first children's book. Why Do Bananas Wear Sunscreen? Because They Peel What Do You Call A Beach Party That Gets Out Of Hand? Sandemonium

What does a lolly do when it gets a cold? It Self-ice-olates

WHAT DO BEES SAY IN THE SUMMER? SWARM, ISN'T IT?

What Is An Ice Cream's Favourite Tv Series?

Game of Cones

Author Interview

Trauma That Metamorphosis Into A Butterily

TRAUMA THAT METAMORPHOSIS INTO A BUTTERFLY Written by Princess Hill



The story of Phoenix is told in the blunt and accepting language of a young child, who is narrating the everyday horrors of generational dysfunction and observed multigenerational familial abuses. Phoenix details encountering her abuses within her family, as well as the rippling impact this has on her sense of self and ultimately, her drive to survive. As Phoenix ages throughout the story, she addresses some of the socially driven challenges within the black community, while also touching on the impact of socioeconomic barriers to addressing abuses, when resources are limited. Phoenix shares the reality of working to thrive with limited familial support, learning how to advocate for herself and others, and learning how to love herself.

available at

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I am an author, mental health therapist and a miracle coach. I love to help people heal and reach self-actualization for a dynamic life experience and I love working out and traveling the world to experience different kinds of vegan food.

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

I started writing poems when I was about 9 years old.

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

I wrote my first story in college but I never published that particular one.

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

My books are a unique spin on trauma and self mastery.

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

I love self development and incorporating nature into my healing modalities. My characters are a reflection of natures colors and living creatures.

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

No matter what you go through in life rather a traumatic experience or a joyful one, when you write about it you can gain more clarity as well as attract better experience through your release on paper. Life is a journey please enjoy it and never silence your gifts or desires. Do whatever makes your heart sing

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) A Butterfly Princess Hill

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Around The World

20. The Most Popular Bahamian Festival Is The Junkanoo

The Bahamas are a **Caribbean country** in the North Atlantic Ocean. The Bahamas are a chain of over 700 islands in the North Atlantic Ocean. About 30 of the islands are inhabited.

> The Exumas Are A Chain Of 365 Islands That Belong To The Bahamas.

> > And Ch

On Big Major Cay. You Will Find Pig Beach Where You Can Experience The Unique Swimming Pigs!



Iguana Island is home to the kew remaining Rock Iguanas that used to cover most of the islands in the Turks and Caicos.

The National Symbols Include The Flamingo The Blue Marlin And The Yellow Elder Flower.

THE ISLANDS ARE MADE OF CORALS AND ARE FLAT AND THERE ARE ONLY SOME LOW HILLS. Sharks, manta rays, sea lions, bottlenose dolphins or hawksbill turtles live in the ocean waters surrounding the islands and the Bahamas offer some of the best diving and snorkelling sites in the world.

36 KIDLIONAG



LICIOPIE and Yellowknife's **Big** Canadian Adventure

A Children's Educational Story About Canada's Capitals In Their Provinces And Territories



available at amazon

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I was born and raised in Hamilton Ontario in a close knit family with five other siblings. I have always been interested in the arts. I am a self taught musician I enjoy composing songs and writing stories for children's books. My other interest includes cooking, traditional and international cuisine. I live in a rural area with my wife, two daughters and a dog.

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

My journey as a writer began in my early twenties composing music. When my nine year old daughter approached me for help to learn Canada's Provincial Capitals for a school test, I wrote this story which in turn lead me to write other children's stories.

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

This was originally written fifteen years ago and is now in the process of being published.



"The Alien is Here!" An Alien appears at the home of a boy and his mother.

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

The stories originated from some of my past personal experiences.

Reading and using your imagination will take you wherever you want to go and who ever you want to be.

This book tells the zany story of Victoria and Yellowknife, who travel across Canada to the provincial and territorial capitals. From the Northwest Territories to Nunavut, each

BIG CANADIAN ADVENTURE

Capitals in their Pi

111

111 111

A Children's Educational Story about Canada's

The inspiration for creating this book was born out of the desire to teach young children a simplistic and enjoyable way to learn about Canada's capitals in their provinces and territories.

Some time ago, Mario's eight-year-old daughter Sydney (who is portrayed as Victoria in this story) approached him to help study for a school test on Canada's capitals. He was able to teach her by a devised technique using humorous word association in an illustrated storyline. Taking the imagination and association approach, Sydney was able to effortlessly memorize all of the capitals in Canada.

capital they visit has a life of its own, complete with all sorts of fun characters.

CUTULLE

MAR

erritories

Mario Cutulle

Q: Tell us something more about your books?

"The Shoebox" depicts a story of a young girl who awaits the return of her father from World War II. "The Gift" A boy and his father in search for a treasured gift in the attic of their home. "Professor Owl's Unexpected Guest" An unusual visitor pays a visit to Professor Owl's treehouse.

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





E.I.G.H.T. Initiative by Anna Dieme Miss Central Maryland 2024

The E.I.G.H.T. initiative ("Empowering Immigrant Girls Through Health Together"), focuses on providing immigrant girls with access to resources, support, and education about leading healthy lifestyles. Through workshops, mentorship, and community events, we aim to equip these girls with the knowledge and tools they need to prioritize their physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Additionally, during the holiday season, we highlight children's books written by immigrant authors that celebrate different cultures and customs. This not only promotes literacy but also fosters understanding and appreciation for diversity among all children, regardless of their background.

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

My name is Anna Dieme, and I am honored to hold the title of Miss Central Maryland 2024. I am deeply passionate about promoting diversity, inclusivity, and wellness in our community. As a first-generation Senegalese American, I am committed to empowering immigrant girls to prioritize their health and well-being. And I consider myself a tea (especially boba) expert!

Q: What strategies do you employ to engage and motivate girls to take care of their overall health and wellness?

Fostering a supportive and inclusive environment where girls feel empowered to take ownership of their health is key. We emphasize the importance of self-care and self-love, and we provide practical tips and resources to help girls incorporate healthy habits into their daily lives. Making sure they feel seen and supportive is what this initiative is all about.

Q: Tell us something more about your noble work with immigrant girls?

My work with immigrant girls goes beyond just promoting physical health. We also focus on building confidence, resilience, and a sense of belonging within these girls. By creating a safe and supportive space where they can express themselves freely and learn from one another. Additionally, as part of our initiative, we provide free downloadable worksheets and resources to the youth, covering topics such as nutrition, mental health, and self-care. These resources are designed to be accessible and engaging, empowering young people to take control of their health and well-being from an early age.

As a first-generation graduate of Towson University, I am deeply passionate about education and advocacy. I believe that education is a powerful tool for social change, and I am committed to continuing my platform as Miss Central Maryland and hopefully as Miss Maryland to advocate for inclusive and equitable access to education and resources for all.

Q: How do you approach working with schools or to support their child's wellness program?

I approach working with schools by offering to collaborate on wellness programs and initiatives that align with our mission. This may include conducting workshops or presentations on topics such as nutrition, mental health, and self-esteem, or providing resources and materials to support existing wellness programs. Additionally, I implement "Wellness Wednesdays" on my social media platforms, where I share tips and words of advice on how to implement all eight dimensions of wellness into our lives. These dimensions include physical, emotional, social, intellectual, environmental, financial, occupational, and spiritual wellness. By promoting holistic well-being, we can empower students to thrive academically, socially, and personally.

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

Absolutely. I want to encourage all readers, regardless of background or circumstance, to prioritize their health and well-being. Feel free to check out my initiative on instagram @theightintiative for free resources on all facets of wellness. Remember that self-care is not selfish—it's essential. Take time to nourish your body, mind, and spirit, and don't be afraid to reach out for support when you need it. Together, we can create a healthier, happier, and more empowered community for all.



Miss Central Maryland Anna Dien





Facts Knon 2

JUNETEENTH IS THE OLDEST **KNOWN HOLIDAY THAT COMMEMORATES THE** END OF SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES.

STRAWBERRY SODA POP WAS ONCE A POPULAR DRINK **ASSOCIATED WITH CELEBRATING THE DAY.**

There is a Juneteenth Flag of Freedom. It is half red and half blue with a star in the middle

The Emancipation Proclamation was issued by Abraham Lincoln on September 22, 1862

THE NAME JUNETEENTH **IS A COMBINATION OF THE WORDS** JUNE AND NINETEENTH.

MANY ENSLAVED **PEOPLE WOULD** NOT FIND OUT THEY HAD BEEN **FREED UNTIL** MORE THAN 2 YEARS LATER.





Author: Ruskin Bond

Publisher: Penguin

Description: India's favourite writer, Ruskin Bond, shares a heartfelt letter about life's many shades on his 90th birthday.

This latest gem in Ruskin Bond's illustrious literary legacy offers an intimate glimpse of his everyday life, the cherished memories, experiences and invaluable insights. His musings and anecdotes are sure to inspire young and adult to hold on to their dreams. Ruskin also offers his wisdom and advice to readers, encouraging them not to overlook life's opportunities and jovs.



gating through life

Author: Zarin Virji

Publisher: Penguin

funny.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Name: Maithili and the Minotaur: Dolls of Despair

Author: C.G. Salamander & Rajiv Eipe

Publisher: Penguin

Description: Armed with her mother's map, Maithili is out to find the truth behind her disappearance. But haunted by ominous visions of a strange boy, Maithili might just lead her friends into the clutches of something sinister.

Will Maithili, Minotaur and their friends find what they're looking for? Or will they be stuck in the cave of a thousand eyes forever?





A LETTER TO

YOUNG FRIENDS

44 K PLIONAC

Name: Living with Adi: A middle-grade novel about an autistic teenager navi-

Description: Adi Krishnan is different!

He is a bright student, who loves to read, and remembers everything down to the smallest details—vet he has no friends. His unusual view of things makes his classmates and teachers regard him as a weirdo.

Will the bullying ever end? Will people accept him as he is? Will he gain the respect of others, especially his dad?

Award-winning author Zarin Virji creates the extraordinary journey of an ordinary boy, narrated by him, his family, classmates and a teacher. And how, despite the challenges, living with Adi is, in fact, unexpected, delightful and

Story THESTALKER

There I was lying and chilling on my couch scrolling through YouTube Shorts whilst eating my food. I am a pretty generous person and so I am open with my thoughts and comment on almost every video which is good. Soon I just came across a video of a man staring at the camera wearing a joker's attire with creepy background and music behind him. I was a bit scared because I don't usually watch horror videos and the title of the video was "DID I SCARE YOU?" I was a bit relieved as it was just a prank and commented on that video "Nice Try buddy but not scary LOL!" Then I scrolled away.

The next day when I picked up my phone to watch videos I saw that the guy in joker attire's video blew up on my feed. I was confused because I didn't even like his video which I saw yesterday. So I started to dislike all of those videos of that guy because doing so removes the videos from the feed. It worked tremendously and none of those videos were there, soon I went to check the notifications and saw that the guy in joker attire had actually replied to my comment saying "Okay Buddy! Then be ready for the harsh " I thought that it was just a coincidence and forgot about it.

Later when I came back from school and picked up my phone for scrolling, as soon as I opened the notifications I saw that the guy in joker attire had actually replied to almost all of the comments which I had made yesterday on other people's posts. It felt like this guy was stalking me. Those comments contained replies like "BE ready Kid will be at your park today evening for you" I thought that he was just joking until he also commented the name of my society I actually freaked out at the moment and decided to calm down. I talked about this with my parents about all of this and they ignored me. I decided to take the bait. When I went in the park for playing and even after the match was ended I decided to leave, surprisingly there was no one and I thought that it was all an elaborate prank. I walked towards my home and suddenly I saw that auy in front of my house I tried running but it was too late, he kept saying that he was the STALKER! I freaked out and started screaming but then he put me inside a bag and because of lack of air I fell unconscious there. When I opened my eyes I was surprised to see that I was inside of my room with a cake in front of me and all my friends and family members were standing, and in front of me the guy in joker attire was there. I screamed and everyone calmed me down and as the joker guy removed his mask I realized that it was my best friend. I beat the hell out of my friend and asked him "Dude what was the need to do this???" He said "Ha ha got you, by the way happy birthday!" I had realized that in all of this rush in the life whilst studying and scrolling I had just forgot that it was my birthday. My family members and all applauded and laughed as I got to know this was all planned. "That's why you ignored me earlier, now I get it!" This birthday was so special that I will never forget it.

> Written by **Raghav Joshi** 14 years

> > 45 1

Poem THE FANTASY OF THE MOON

The silvery moon chases me wherever I go. The moon light touches my silky skin through the windows Guides me through out the night Unveils the right direction towards an infinite goal Unravels the ultimate aim of my life The silvery moon hangs in the lonely sky Casting a gentle shine above me[•] The "celestial pearl" steals my soul by its exquisiteness It's mesmerizing beauty and tranquility behold me in its silvery boughs It teaches me to imbibe good virtues To acquire tolerance and perseverance And to adopt positivism in life "Silver Ballerina" casts a shadow I wonder -What is right or what is wrong?* Interposes our heart with full of gratitude Moon is blissful Moon is jubilant Moon is exultant Nothing can replace the guiding light from its site. Let me lie^equite in silvery blessings for an infinite time.

Name - Shreeya Sampada Class-9 **School -DAV Public School City-Puri**

State-Odisha India



HOW YOUR HAIR GROWS?

WHY DO BOYS HAVE SHORTER HAIR THAN GIRLS?

WHY DOES SOME PEOPLE'S HAIR CHANGE COLOR?

WHY DO HUMANS HAVE DIFFERENT COLORS OF HAIR?

WHY DO SOME PEOPLE HAVE STRAIGHT HAIR AND SOME HAVE CURLY HAIR?

THE WHY? Answer?

BRAIN-G AIR THAN GIRLS?



Creative Corner









Ayaan Bansal (15 years) Germany













Nilya Sadat Mirrezaie 11 Years, Iran

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World Environment Day

SAVE THE PLANET

A Kies Literary Magazin

