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Editor's Note

Dear Young Explorers,

Welcome to the July edition of Kidliomag! As we bask in the warmth of summer, it's the perfect time to celebrate the spirit of freedom and creativity that defines this vibrant season.

July 4th, Independence Day, is more than just fireworks and parades—it's a celebration of the courage and dreams that built a nation. This month, we invite you to explore stories of bravery, imagination, and the endless possibilities that come with believing in yourself.

Inside this issue, you'll find:

Inspiring tales that ignite your imagination and showcase the power of determination. Creative activities to spark your artistic flair and celebrate the red, white, and blue. Fun facts and puzzles that challenge your mind and teach you about the history of Independence Day.

Remember, every great journey begins with a single step—or in our case, a single page. So, grab your favorite reading spot, dive into these stories, and let your imagination soar.

With excitement and joy,

Happy 4th of July **Happy Reading!** 

**Dhruvin Dharmendra** 

### Dhruvin Dharmendra





Hi there, friends! I'm Luniant — just a tiny ant with the biggest dreams you can imagine. I live in the Black Meadow with my amazing bug buddies like Doodoo the funny green beetle, Piki the clever spider, the Strix sisters (they're the coolest dragonflies ever!), and many more wonderful friends.

What makes me special? Well, I might just be the world's smallest blogger. One magical day, I discovered a shiny mobile phone that someone had dropped in our meadow. That phone opened a window into the human world and changed everything. Through it, I discovered blogging, made new friends across the globe, and even became the official mascot for international children's film festivals in Los Angeles and San Diego. Can you imagine that? It still feels like a dream!

Now, I'm preparing for my biggest adventure yet: a real journey to the Moon to meet the moon ants! I'm fine-tuning my spaceship made from pencils, matches, and bug-sized courage, getting ready for the ultimate takeoff.

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

My very first story was about the day I found the phone — that life-changing moment when I decided to become a blogger. I wrote it on a leaf using morning dew, then typed it into the phone with shaking antennae. But the real magic happened when I met Amanda Moore, a wonderful human who believed in my tiny tales. She and her creative team at Conus Vision helped transform my meadow adventures into something absolutely incredible!

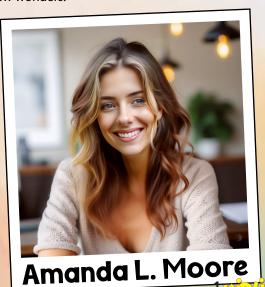
Together with Amanda, we created a full-fledged book with all my stories. Olivia, a talented artist, helped bring my ant world to life with magnificent watercolor illustrations that make every leaf glow and every dewdrop sparkle. The team of artists and designers at Conus Vision created mini animations for each section, and get this — they even made an interactive book app for mobile devices! And all of this is wrapped in an incredibly atmospheric soundtrack composed by Marta. When I first heard the music playing while looking at my illustrated adventures, my heart was jumping with happiness!

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

It all began on a dewy morning when my friend Doodoo and I discovered that mysterious phone lying in the grass. The screen lit up like a tiny sun, showing videos of people dancing, sharing stories, and connecting with the world. That's when it hit me — if humans can share stories and bring smiles, why can't an ant do the

The phone was enormous to us — like finding a movie theater screen in your backyard. But when I touched it with my tiny antenna, magic happened. I could type, I could share, I could connect!

So I started blogging about life in the meadow, where raindrops feel like waterfalls splashing down, pebbles tower like mountains, and grass grows like emerald skyscrapers reaching for the clouds. I wanted to show people how magical our miniature world is when you see it through an ant's eyes. Every dewdrop holds rainbows, every flower petal is a landing pad for adventures, and every day brings new wonders.



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

"Luniant Adventures" is more than just a book — it's a portal into our tiny world! Inside, you'll find four of my most amazing adventures.

First comes the story of how I became the world's smallest blogger when Doodoo and I found that giant phone in the clover field. Then there's my wild morning trapped in a mirror maze made of dewdrops — I had to drink my way out! My circus adventure flying on Piki's spider webs over the lake is there too. And the biggest story is my journey to the Moon, where we built a real rocket from a pencil, thread spool, and matches to meet the glowing moon ants!

Every single page has gorgeous full-page watercolor illustrations by Olivia that make you feel like you're right there in the meadow with us. Where the world is filled with magic, dewdrops sparkle like crystal balls, and every tiny detail of our bug world comes to life in dreamy colors.

The team created beautiful video illustrations for each section of the book. These mini-animations bring every adventure to life with movement and wonder — like having a living miniature world right inside your book! But here's the really magical part — the interactive mobile app! You can read and listen to a special shorter version of my Moon journey. Tap on any character and watch us move and dance across the screen. Help me launch my pencil rocket to the Moon, and so much more! It's like the book comes alive in your hands.

And Marta's soundtrack? Oh, it's perfect for bedtime! The gentle melodies sound like moonbeams dancing on leaves and soft beetle wings humming Iuliabies. Many parents tell me their little ones fall asleep listening to it every night.

This is just the beginning of my adventures — we're already working on the next book! I can't wait to share what happens when I finally meet those moon ants. Will they teach me their glowing dance? Will I make it back home? The adventure continues!



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

They didn't come from my imagination — they come from real life in the Black Meadow!

Doodoo, my cheerful beetle friend, is always buzzing around and making us laugh with his silly dances. He's full of energy and never stays still for long! Piki the spider loves jokes and surprises — he once spun a web across the path just to make us giggle! Streaks sisters are fast-flying dragonflies who put on amazing sky shows. Slowy the snail. He's thoughtful, just very, very slow.

And me. I'm just a tiny ant who started asking big questions — especially after a wise beetle told me about glowing ants dancing around the Moon. That idea sparked everything! A simple dream became a mission, and now I'm building a spaceship and getting ready to launch.

Every day in our meadow is a new story. A walk through the grass feels like an epic journey. When friends come together, even the impossible — like flying to the Moon — becomes possible.



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

Oh yes! I have something very important to say: Never let anyone tell you your dreams are too big. I'm just a tiny ant, but because I believed, I've made friends around the world, shared my stories, and now I'm preparing to fly to the Moon!

I want to thank everyone who helped make my book possible: All the incredible team at Conus Vision and all the volunteers who helped along the way. I'm also grateful to my new friends, who are helping share my story, and to Dan, who made me the mascot of those wonderful film festivals and even showed my short videos on the big movie screen!

But most of all, I want to thank YOU — my readers, my friends, my fellow adventurers. Your support means the world to me. Keep dreaming, keep exploring, and always be kind. Whether you're stuck in a mirror maze or building a rocket from pencils and matches — friendship makes anything possible. Follow my latest adventures on Instagram and Facebook write comments, share your stories, and maybe your idea will

Ready for takeoff together? With tiny feet and giant dreams,

inspire my next adventures!

#### luniant.com







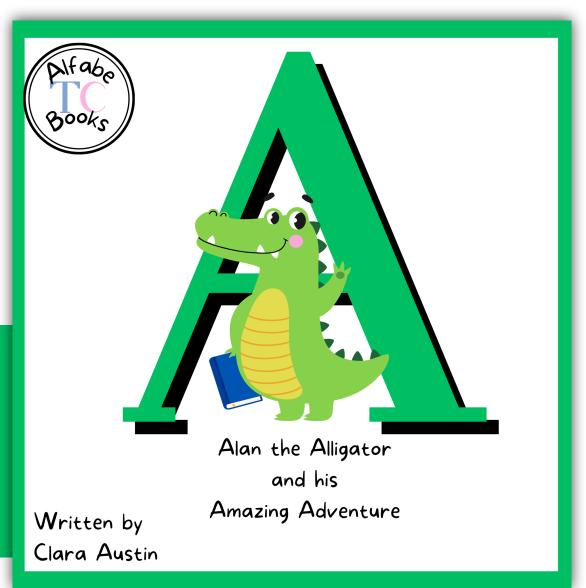
**Author Interview** 

# Alan the Alligator and his Amazing Adventure

Read the first in the series of exciting alphabet and phonics books.

Alan the alligator takes on an amazing adventure while trying to find a peaceful place to read his book.

Follow the journey of Alan and all the words beginning with the 'a' sound.



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

Hi! I'm an international educator and children's book author with over a decade of teaching experience across seven different countries. Throughout my career, I've developed a deep passion for early literacy and helping young children develop a love for reading through playful, phonics-based learning. After becoming a confident phonics teacher and earning a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Studies, I decided to step away from the classroom to focus on writing and creating educational books for all types of learners. When I'm not writing or creating, I love exploring new places, spending time with my family and lots of retail therapy.

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

My journey as a writer began in the classroom. I was always creating my own resources and stories to support the needs of my students, especially when it came to phonics. Over time, I noticed how much of a gap there was in specific sounds when it came to phonics books. When teaching EAL children vocabulary is also very important when learning a new phonics sound, and the resources available were lacking what I wanted to teach. That's when the idea for my phonics storybooks really started to grow.

So in March 2024, I decided to take a break from the classroom and focus on turning my ideas into books. I wanted to create something fun, accessible, and grounded in strong early years practice—resources that teachers and parents could trust and children would love.

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

I wrote my first story, Alan the Alligator and his Amazing Adventure, as part of my phonics series, focusing on the short 'a' phoneme sound. The character was inspired by my grandad Alan, who shared many of the same personality traits—loves to read books, is kind, and always trying to find a quiet spot—so it was a really special story for me to create. Yes, it's published and available on Amazon, and it marked the beginning of my journey into turning phonics learning into something children genuinely enjoy.





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

My phonics storybook series is designed to support early readers in a fun and meaningful way. Each book focuses on a specific sound and features a loveable character whose name and adventure reinforce that sound through alliteration and repetition. Alongside the engaging stories, each book includes interactive phonics activities—such as letter hunts, word finds, and sound-based games—that help children practise decoding and blending in context.

The goal is to make phonics feel exciting and accessible for all learners, whether they're at home or in the classroom. The stories are structured to build confidence, support sound recognition, and promote a love of reading through play and imagination.

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

Most of the characters in my books are inspired by family members and close friends. I've always believed that the best stories come from personal connection, so I started shaping each character based on people I know and love—their quirks, personalities, and values. This helped bring a real sense of warmth and authenticity to the stories, and it made the writing process even more special.

Once I had the character in mind, I would build a fun, phoneme-focused adventure around them. The combination of real-life inspiration and educational purpose helped the stories come to life in a way that's both relatable and meaningful for young readers.

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

Yes! I want every young reader to know that learning to read is a wonderful adventure—one that should be fun, exciting, and full of imagination. Don't worry if things feel tricky at first—every great reader starts with small sounds and builds from there. Keep exploring, keep practising, and most importantly, keep enjoying the stories.

And to the grown-ups—parents, teachers, and carers—thank you for guiding little learners with love and patience. I hope my books bring joy to your phonics journey and help make learning to read a magical experience for every child.

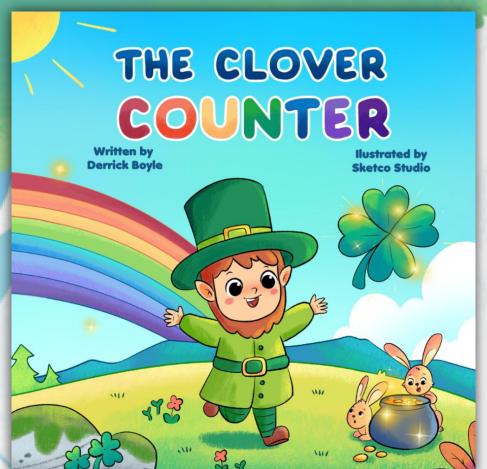
www.teacherspayteachers.com/store/alfabe-books

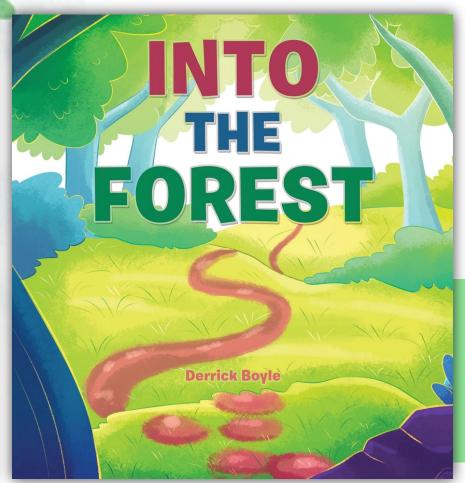




# Possele With Its Identical Pair And Find A Popsicle With No Matching Pair.







### **Author Interview** THE FOREST

Into The Forest invites young readers on an exciting adventure as two curious friends step into the heart of the forest for the first time. With wide eyes and open hearts, they discover a world filled with magic, mystery, and incredible animals.

Through vibrant illustrations and a simple, engaging storyline, Into The Forest introduces young children to the wonders of wildlife and the beauty of exploration. Perfect for bedtime reading or classroom story time, this book sparks curiosity and fosters a love for nature. Join them on their unforgettable journey into the forest-and who knows what you'll uncover along the way!

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

Hi! I'm Derrick Boyle — proud husband, proud dad, and proud dog dad. I'm a children's book author and the founder of Bibby's Blurbs Publishing — a joyful brand dedicated to sparking imagination in young minds. Based in upstate New York, I write and publish books that inspire, educate, and spark imagination. My goal is simple: bring joy to young readers and the grownups who read with them.

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

It all started after my son was born in 2024. As I began reading to him nightly, I rediscovered the magic of picture books — how they teach, comfort, and connect. That inspiration led me to write my own stories, and in January 2025, I officially launched my publishing journey with Bibby's Blurbs.

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

I started writing my own books in August 2024, shortly after my son was born. That creative spark quickly turned into a passion, and by January 2025, I had finalized several book titles and officially launched my publishing company, Bibby's Blurbs. My first published book, The Clover Counter, launched in March 2025 and guickly found a warm welcome among families and educators. We followed that up with our second release, Into the Forest, and have since begun working with other talented authors to help publish and promote their titles as well.

available at

www.BibbysBlurbs.com amazon



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

Each of my books serves a purpose beyond storytelling — whether it's teaching early math skills, encouraging curiosity, or celebrating seasonal adventures.

The Clover Counter is a magical counting adventure featuring Lucky the Leprechaun. It turns learning numbers and essential early math skills into an engaging and playful experience that promotes early learning through fun and imagina-

Into the Forest invites children to explore the wonders of nature with lyrical rhythm and vibrant illustrations. It encourages young readers to slow down, observe, and appreciate the beauty of the world around them.

Both books are designed to inspire imagination while supporting early childhood development in a joyful and meaningful way.

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

The inspiration comes straight from the everyday magic of being a parent. Watching my son discover the world with fresh eyes made me want to capture that sense of wonder on the page. Whether it's a festive leprechaun or a quiet walk through the woods, I build stories around the kinds of adventures I imagine sharing with my own child.

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

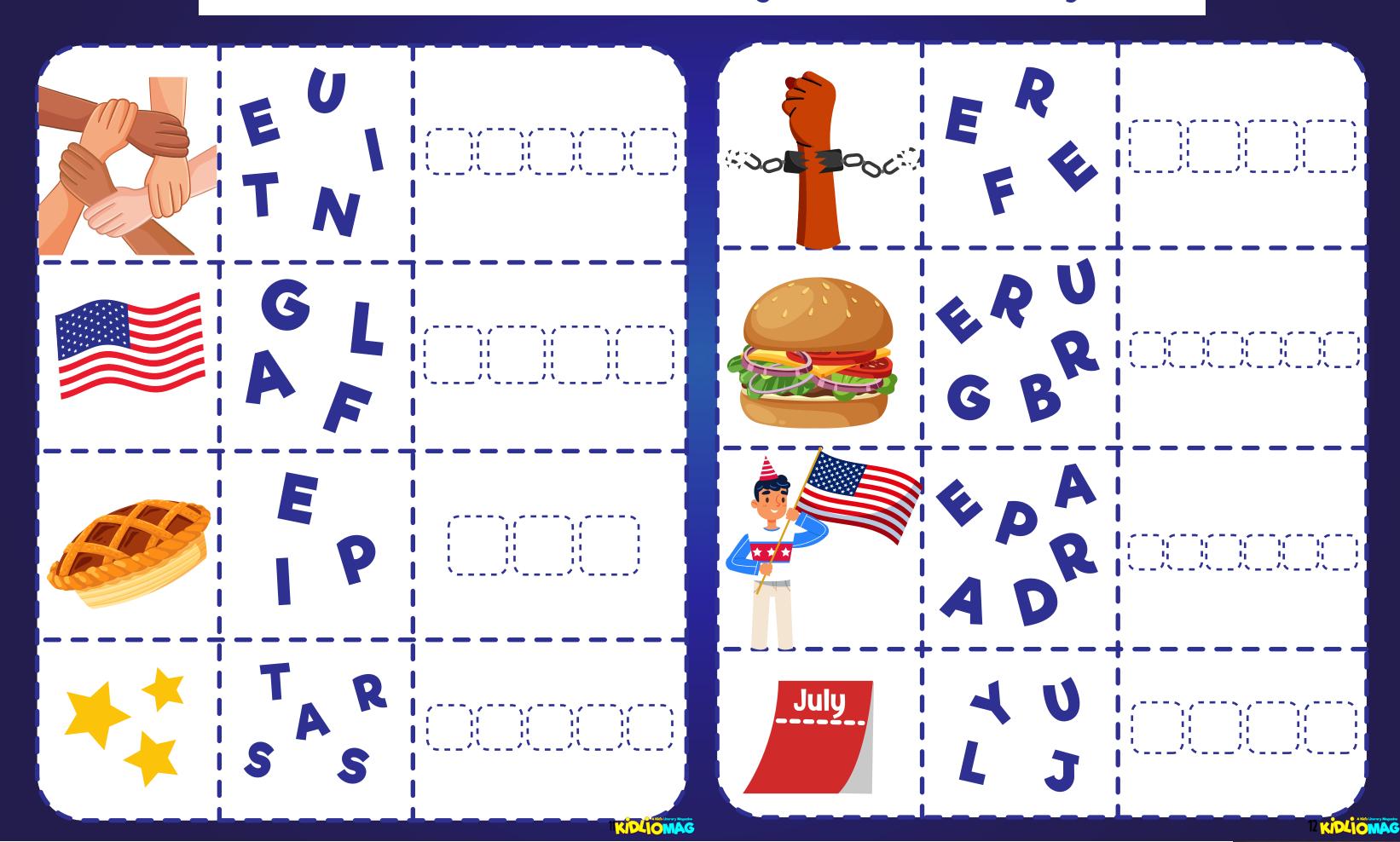
Yes — keep exploring, keep imagining, and never underestimate the magic of reading together. To the young readers: your curiosity is your superpower. And to parents, caregivers, and teachers: thank you for making books a part of a child's world.





## 4th Of July Words Scramble

Look At The Pictures And Arrange The Words Carefully.



**Author Interview** 

## Scott Feld





Q: First tell us something about yourself.

A: I am an award winning, best-selling author of Dax to the MAX: Blah Blah Blobs vs. Power Pods as well as a master certified kids' empowerment coach and Dad to my own 9 year old son. I have worked with kids in many different ways for 30+ years and studied personal development for 20+ years. Besides the book, I also have a course called:Keys to Unlock your Inner Superpowers which helps kids build confidence and resiliency in a fun, interactive way.

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

I wrote different stories and poems as a kid and teen but didn't publish until 5 years ago with my first book: Dax to the MAX: Imagination

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

My first real story was Dax to the MAX: Imagination and Yes...it is published

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

My books are all about empowerment for kids with fun, adventure as the background.

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

My own son was the inspiration for my first book. I was asked to write a script for an animated tv show based on the book which I did but it hit the writers strike and they were unable to sell it. I wrote the 2nd Dax to the MAX book based on the tv show script now hoping to gain a following to re-pitch to network or streaming channels. Dax is the name of my son and MAX is his Inner Super Power (I.S.P or him to his MAX-imum potential). Blah Blah Blobs were a way to give Stink Think a visual named after the constant chatter in our heads. Funzi is a nickname for Dad he gave himself because that is how he sees himself-FUN. Mom needed a connection to her son and Kobe Kangaroo with its energy and protective pouch was perfect. The name Kobe is an homage to Kobe Bryant.

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

You Can! You Will! Power-UP to the MAX!





Moms Choice Gold Medal Winner: Dax to the MAX: Blah Blah Blobs vs. Power Pods

Meet Dax, an imaginative and determined young boy who is tired of letting the relentless Blah Blah Blobs—gooey, slimy, monstrous creations that feed on "Stink Think"—control his life. Just when it feels like those menacing Blobs might be around forever, keeping him from doing what he wants to do, and pulling him deeper and deeper into their pit of doom, Dax's inner superhero, MAX, shows up!

With MAX's help, Dax begins to uncover the secret of "Power Thinking" and the strength of his Inner Super Powers (I. S. P.). But can Dax truly conquer the Blobs, or will they prove to be too much to overcome? It's an epic battle of Positive vs. Negative thinking. Who—or what—will win?

Join Dax, MAX, and their colorful crew in a thrilling quest to discover the superhero that lies within!

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ROCKET

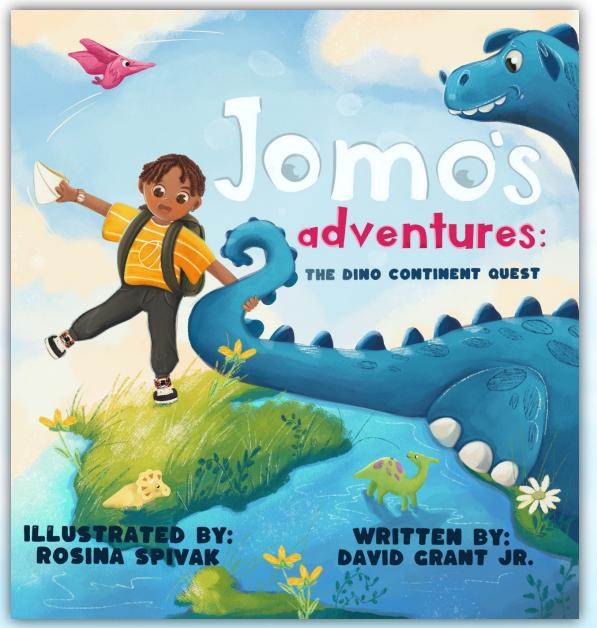
STARS

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## JOMOS adventures: EXPLORING THE COSMOS



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

A: I really love my family. Everything that I do, I do it for my family. I believe it is a blessing and an honor to be the head of my house, so I want to do that to the best of my ability, giving my wife and my son the most love that I can every day.

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

A: My journey as a Children's author started in 2020 when I was in the military and I did not have to travel a lot because of deployment. While I had more time to spend with my family, I would think of stories that I wanted to tell my son and how I could make those stories fun and educational. I would tell those stories to my son before bed and one day my wife told me to make a book. From her suggestion came the Jomo's Adventures series.

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

A: My first story was completed in 2022, and I was blessed to be able to have it published through Amazon in 2023 after I was honorably separated from the military.

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

A: My stories are very special to me because they are inspired by my son. In the Jomo's Adventures series, Jomo is the main character, and he uses his imagination to take him on global adventures full of fun, education, and cultural immersion. This is so amazing to me because I truly want my son to explore the world, but eaders to explore our beautiful pla

#### Q: How did these stories ar

A: Jomo and everything deep in my heart I war and experiences beyon

#### Q: Do you want to lea

A: I would like to tell with a purpose, and place.

because cultures ıtiful. reated better



## BUG LETTER JUMPS

START WITH THE FIRST LETTER, CROSS OUT EVERY OTHER LETTER TO FIND OUT THE NAME OF THE BUG



GWRWAPSTSUHMONPFPWESR



HVOTNVEVYKBWEWE

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## Magical Moments

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

I was born and raised in Ireland, the oldest girl in a family of thirteen. My parents imbued all of us with a love of prose and poetry. While caring for my siblings, and later for my own children, I always enjoyed sharing stories, poems, and rhyming games. With my children grown and gone, and after a few years in the corporate world and as a teaching assistant, I became a nanny and caretaker for countless families over the next twenty years. Along my life journey through different countries, cities, and towns, I found that young learners always had a common denominator: an engaged and positive response to poetry. Now, after years of sharing the works of others, I am hoping this collection, Magical Moments, will entertain, comfort, and inspire children wherever they may be.

#### Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?/Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

At the start of my eighth decade, at the age of 80, I wrote my first children's poem. I had been exploring short story writing a few years previously and had not had anything published yet. When I started writing children's poetry the poems seemed to flow out of me and I soon realized that I had a collection to present to a publisher. It was such an exciting time in my life, to write and then get published! It's not always easy finding and then engaging with novel or new experiences when we are in our 80's! I am very grateful for this opportunity, to share my poems with the world and for the very helpful and engaging publisher that took my poems on and brought them to life on the page, Brandylane Publishers. And for the truly amazing illustrator that they connected me with, Natalia Logvanova, who made my words into spectacular images with her artistry.

When COVID began and we all became so isolated from one another, I would sit outside and imagine all the children, and how they might be coping with this unfortunate event. I imagined them in nature, in play and reacting to the world around them.. Other themes emerged, about nature, and animals and sharing and caring. And it was fun to mix some fantasy in, about children enjoying animals in their natural habitat.

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

Magical Moments is a book of rhyming story poems about children noticing the world around them both inside and outside the home. It is about caring and sharing with parents, grandparents, and other family members. Throw into the mix a little bit of fantasy, a lot of fun, and hopefully a broadening of the imagination. Accompanied by many colorful illustrations, we hope your children feel safe and loved as they explore this magical collection

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

Lots of daydreaming time in my backyard, sitting in nature, thinking about how little ones perceive the world around them and how it makes them feel. I wanted to try and bring these experiences of children to life!

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

Reading to our children is such a gift. My book Magical Moments: Poems For Kids of All Ages can also be a teaching tool in the elementary school environment, as I have received feedback from teachers that they have made weeklong lesson plans for their classrooms using the book.

### Magical Moments

POEMS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES



Poems By

Mary Culleton Dunn

Art By Natalia Logvanova

And more and more research suggests that introducing children to poetry can be so beneficial to their learning experience. One study in particular, performed in 2024 in the UK by the National Literacy Trust suggests, "Our latest research published on National Poetry Day (3 October 2024) reveals that poetry can have hugely significant benefits to children's mental wellbeing, confidence, aptitude for learning and their ability to develop empathy.

Website: https://literacytrust.org.uk/news/our-latest-research-reveals-over-half-of-children-missing-out-on-poetry-benefits/



Activity











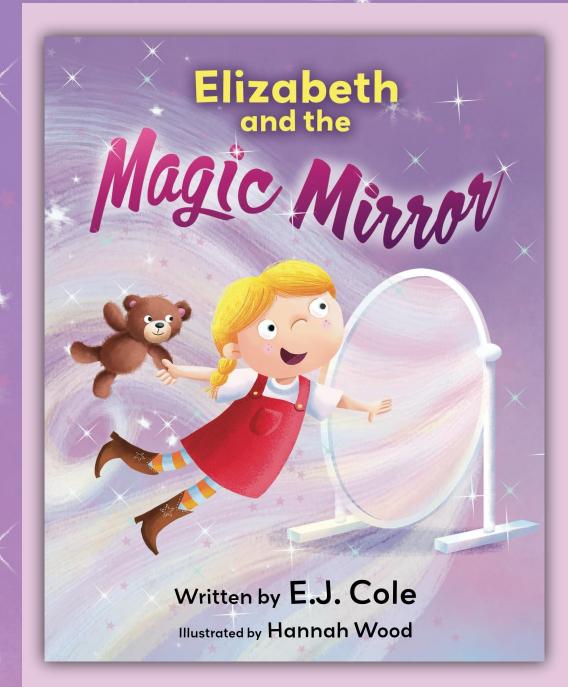


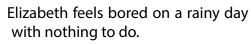






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Her mother is busy working and tells Elizabeth to figure out what to do by herself, so Elizabeth decides to enlist the help of her favorite stuffie, C.B. the bear. Use your imagination, he says. And boy, does she ever!

Her day is filled with magical adventures more exciting than her wildest dreams—and she doesn't even need to leave her room!

# Elizabeth and the Magic Mirror

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

I am a social worker (LICSW) with a background in Early Childhood Education. I have worked with children and families for over 30 years and was the Owner/Director of an Early Childhood Education center for 15 of those years. I am passionate about writing children's stories and used to read them to the children in my program and share them with their families.

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

I started writing and illustrating comic books as a child and began writing stories as a teenager. I have continued to write children's stories throughout my life and have always had the dream to publish them.

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

I wrote my first stories as a teenager but just published my first book in May. The story I published was first drafted more than 30 years ago, though the story has evolved over time.

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

The stories I write all have a common theme of children using their imaginations. I include suggested activities for adults and children to do together to help develop their imaginative skills and enjoy their time together.

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

The character in my first published book is based on my own child-hood and the imaginative adventures I created. I grew up in a small farming community and it was important to learn to entertain myself.





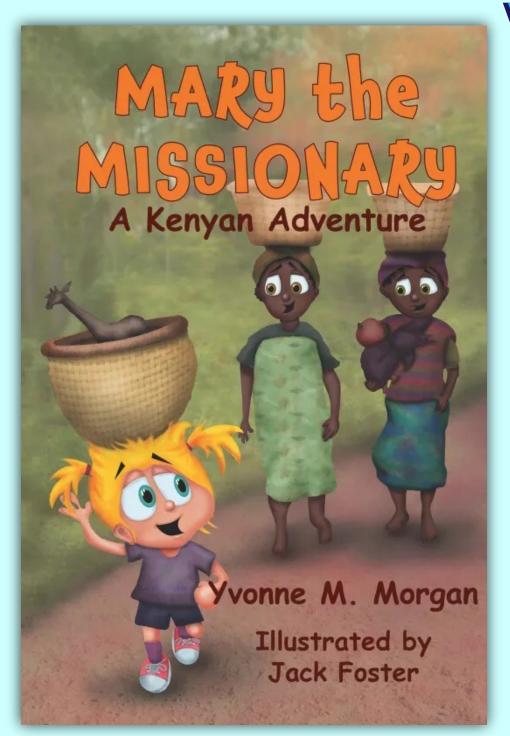
#### Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

I would love for my readers to be inspired to spend quality time together, engaging in activities that are creative and don't involve using electronics. I would love for them to enjoy simple, imaginative play and have fun!

## Spot 6 Differences







Are you ready for an adventure in Kenya? After singing "Jesus Loves the Little Children" in Sunday School, Mary has many questions about children in other countries. When her parents learn about a mission trip to Kenya, they decided to experience another culture as a family. Mary encounters many trials on her Kenyan adventure. In the end, she learns that she and her new friends aren't different, and Jesus loves all children.

Through colorful illustrations and engaging storytelling, "Mary the Missionary" teaches important lessons about acceptance, empathy, and love. As Mary meets children from different cultures and backgrounds, she learns to see the world through their eyes and understand the unique challenges they face. Along the way, she also discovers the unifying power of faith and how it transcends all barriers.

amazon

#### **Author Interview**

## MARY THE MISSIONARY

### A Kenyan Adventure

Yvonne M Morgan, an award-winning author, takes readers on a journey of faith, love, and trust in the power of prayer. As a seasoned traveler and devoted Christian, Yvonne shares her own personal experiences of witnessing the miraculous work of Christ in her life. Through her captivating storytelling, readers will be inspired to trust in the Lord and find hope in the midst of struggles. Yvonne's heartwarming stories and insightful reflections will resonate with anyone who is seeking to deepen their relationship with God. Whether you are a seasoned Christian or new to the faith, her words will leave you feeling uplifted and encouraged.

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

I started writing in 2016 and I was 52.

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

Yes, my first writing was published as a Christian memoir called Turning Mountains Into Molehills.

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

I have 8 books and all are Christian. 3 children's books, 4 nonfiction and one adult fiction.

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

They were developed from our years of participating in short term mission work.

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

Mary the Missionary: A Kenyan Adventure by Yvonne M. Morgan is a captivating tale perfect for young readers eager to explore the world's diversity through the lens of faith and kindness. It's perfect for families, schools and Sunday school students.



### World's Longest Tunnel

The Gotthard Base Tunnel is the world's longest and deepest railway tunnel, stretching for 57 km (35 miles) under the Swiss Alps.





### Four Official Languages

Switzerland is a multilingual country, with four official languages: German, French, Italian, and Romansh. German is the most widely spoken, with about 63% of the population using it as their first language.



## Over 1,500 Lakes

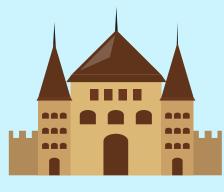
Switzerland is a land of lakes, with more than 1,500 of them covering about 6% of its surface area. The largest and most famous ones are Lake Geneva, Lake Zurich, Lake Constance, and Lake Lugano.

## Switzerland Produces Half of the World's High-end Timepieces

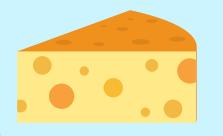
The luxury watch market is significantly dominated by Switzerland's watch industry, as Switzerland has a long history of creating high-quality watches and is known for its watchmaking sector. Swiss companies produce names like Tissot, TAG Heuer, Rolex, Patek Philippe, and Longines.



## Third Happiest Country In The World



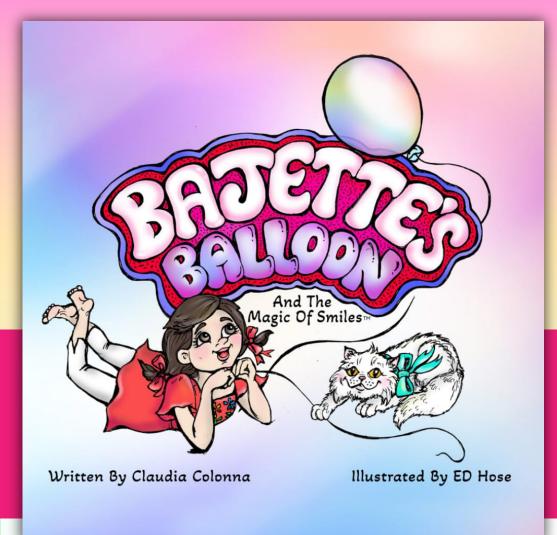
## Switzerland Is Known for Its World Famous Production of Notable Cheese



### Swiss Chocolate

Switzerland is a chocolate lover's paradise, and the origin of one of the world's most-loved chocolates; Toblerone. According to the International Cocoa Organization, the average Swiss person consumes about 10 kg (22 lbs) of chocolate per year.





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

Claudia Colonna, a NJ based author is the heart Behind Bajette's Balloon

Bajette's Balloon was created from inspiration by her parents' unwavering spirit of generosity. Even in tough times, they found excitement in giving to others, a value Claudia cherishes and carries forward through this story.

Claudia has been touring NJ schools, daycares, libraries and events reading the story, doing kindness activities to nurture those giant hearts of little kids. She is also doing virtual tours to spread the Kind balloon nationally - wherever and whenever she could!

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

After my mom's passing, I was inspired to spread with deep conviction my parents unwavering spirit of giving and doing for others.

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

Bajette's Balloon was released in March 2025. This is the first of what will be an ongoing adventure of giving. Illustration took about a year to complete as Ed Hose hand drew everything. Traditional publishing was never an option for me, as I wanted to see my vision through for a high quality book and specific illustration that would be like a second manuscript. I didn't start this journey solely for a business, I started it with a mission and clear vision!

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

The story teaches kids generosity, a giving spirit, true kindness, and awareness of those around them who might need help or a smile. It weaves in themes of love and aging, disability, allergy awareness, community and environmental care and fire safety.

What happens when a simple act of giving turns into a movement of generosity and connection?



Bajette's Balloon is a heartwarming social-emotional learning (SEL) story — an adventure of giving. You can easily nurture your child's empathy, kindness, awareness, and understanding of human connection through the stories in this book, along with thoughtful activities designed to bring those lessons to life and spark their tender heart! The Magic of Smiles™ stickers available through book purchase and the content on social media make these activities seamlessly accessible

#### www.bajette.com

Bajette's Balloon is inspired by real-life experiences of creating excitement through giving and building community.

A color-changing, magical mystery balloon finds its way to Bajette and whisks her off on an unforgettable adventure. Along the journey, she meets a new friend, Bobby, and together they generously share their belongings with those they encounter. Mischief arises when Bajette's lost cat stirs up trouble, while the balloon carefully avoids sharp edges.

The Magic of Smiles™ stickers puts giving into action and makes it extra exciting for kids - they know giving is receiving and they LOVE stickers!

In the end, there is a purple balloon for mystery, which symbolizes a second book coming. This book, spoiler alert, will have a fairy.

My social media campaigns are currently being developed to bring the adventure of giving to life and many acts of kindness.

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

The characters and stories are from real people and real life experiences and thoughtfulness. Bajette is inspired by my mom. She was always pulling something from her bag, closet, cupboards, or wherever she could. Bobby was inspired by dad who was the resourceful one, offering a ride and helping people to find solutions or connections. Rocco was their cat that did get lost and was found! Mikey with the nut allergies is inspired by my brother who has severe allergies and my family ALWAYS made sure he was never left out. Each story teaches empathy and awareness in different ways

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

Our mission is to grow young hearts and open many hearts all around. Giving is receiving and we can all be happier with better quality of life if we open our hearts more!









## When I s-special

No one's perfect not even a seven-year-old girl, Seerat. She had a speech disorder, she would stutter whenever she would try to talk — words fumble and flip through her mouth. While teachers loved her and acknowledged her wisdom, classmates would tease her and call her 'Seerat the Stutterer'!

One day, Seerat's classmates decided to play a prank. They gave her name in the poem competition, thinking she would fumble and will make a boo-boo of herself. Seerat went to her mom and told about the classmates plan. She said, "Maa, I-i-i fear, th-the entire s-s-school will I-lauhg on me."

Seerat's mom exclaimed, "Oh dear, it is okay to stutter, why be ashamed. And if they are hoping, you will end up making a boo-boo. Then prove them wrong." Seerat's mom helped her write a poem on Stutter for the **School Competition**. Seerat said, "Maa b-b-but, I wo-won't be a-able to read it out. And they will get another reason to laugh on me."

Seerat's mom replied, "Oh dear, only Sachin Tendulkar can teach how to mark century, and Asha Bhosle can make a person learn singing the best. As they are best known for their work. So, a stutterer will be the best person to let the world know about stutter."

On the day of the **Poem** competition, Seerat was scared, but her maa's words kept her calm. She knew it is okay to stutter sometimes. She wasn't panicking, she was ready to bring the change and let other's know the hurt of being called with names.

Seerat recited her poem in front of the huge **Crowd**. She said, "Hi I-I am Se-Se-Seerat. Ma-many of you know me as Se-se-seerat t-the st-st-stutter. Yes, I am a stutter, Sometimes I re-repeat a word or a sound, which makes it more h-hard for my voice to be h-heard. You think it is a disorder, but it is a speech problem."

Seerat continued, "It I-looks **fu-funny** to h-hear, but h-hard to sp-speak as words g-et st-stuck in my tongue and they won't come out as easily as I want them to. Instead of I-laughing out loud, be patient and hear me. Show me, you ca-care or don't care at al. As one day I know I will overcome it one day, with or without your help. I am a st-stutter and it is not a weakness, just a limitation, which will end with continuous practice."

The entire crowd was left in awe, and they all clapped at the bravery of Seerat for accepting her flaw. That day, Seerat not only **Won The Competition**, but also the respect of her entire school.





ave the Planet dmill Story Singla, Age 9

tt. My name is Parth Singla, and I am 9 years old. I love how things work in real life. I made this windmill to our world. It was one of my favorite projects because it's

pieces, a small motor, a battery, wires, and blades. When pins the blades quickly, just like how wind moves real denergy can be turned into movement and then into

s is that they use wind, which is natural, free, and never bes not pollute the air or harm animals. Windmills make they keep our planet clean and healthy.

ere electricity is not easily available. In small villages or homes, power fans, and even help run small machines. ons cannot reach.

that they help fight climate change. When we use clean on dioxide, which is a gas that makes the Earth hotter.

The planet and protect our future.

s don't make loud noises or dangerous fumes. They can or grind grains. This makes them helpful in many ways,

nall windmill all by myself. It made me think like a young make a difference by trying new ideas. Projects like this us how to care for the world.

dren to explore clean energy. We can all become probriands, our hearts, and our love for the Earth. The wind y, we can create a better tomorrow.





## HOW DOES A

How Deep Can You Go in a Submarine?

**How Long Can Submarines** Stay Underwater?

How Does a Submarine Surface?

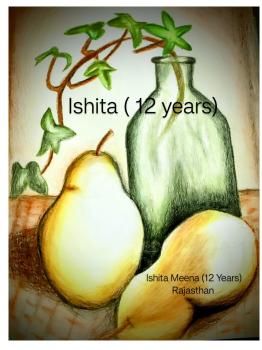
How Do Submarine Navigate Underwater?



## Creative Corner

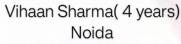






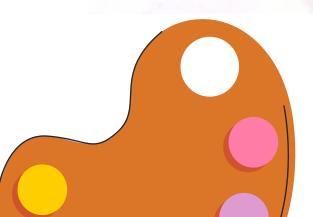




















500
Million Gallons of Ice Cream
Consumed at Fourth of July
Picnics

150 Million Hotdogs Eaten Every Fourth of July

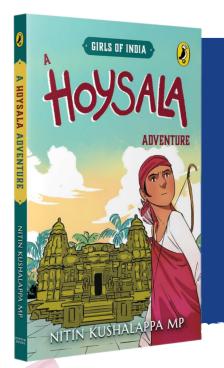


Although Fourth Of July
Has Been Celebrated For
Many Years, It Was Not
Declared A Federal Holiday
Untill 1870

Enough Red
White Blue
Ballons To Lift 10
Liberty Bells

Fourth of July is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the Declaration of Independence of the United States, which was ratified by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776.

### **BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS**



Name: A Hoysala Adventure

**Author: Nitin Kushalappa MP** 

**Publisher: Penguin** 

Description: The year is 1185 CE. Devaki tends to her ailing father, Pemma Virappa, lord of Kodagu, who has been tasked with collecting revenue by Hoysala emperor, Veera Ballala II. But the king is unaware of Virappa's illness.

With the royal thappal post system failing and bandits prowling the forests, Devaki sets out for the capital, Dwarasamudra (modern Halebidu), to deliver the news-despite her parents' fears.

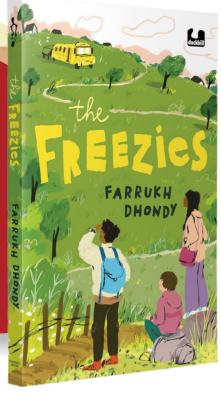
Name: The Freezies

**Author: Farrukh Dhondy** 

**Publisher: Penguin** 

Description: Suleikha, Leo and Kai call themselves the Freezies because they've been frozen out of the popular groups of their village school.

One day, a battered van with a trailer attached is found parked in the Mead, the open village green. In it is Mr Christaki, who is unkempt in appearance but gentle in speech. His appearance creates fissure lines in the village, which divides into camps that cannot agree over what is to happen with Mr Christaki. Meanwhile, Mr Christaki makes his own place in the community and becomes music tutor to the Freezies.





Name: Left-out Paru

Author: Bijal Vachharajani

**Publisher: Penguin** 

Description: The kids in Paru's new class make fun of her because she is left-handed. The bullying is led by Nina, Paru's deskmate. How is Paru to make things right left?

