# beaming books FALL 2023

# beaming 🔆 books

Beaming Books publishes high-quality children's books that help kids thrive emotionally, socially, and spiritually.





# The Kid with Big, Big Ideas

Written by Britney Winn Lee · Illustrated by Jacob Souva

"There once was a kid with glittery nails who always wore colorful socks, and all around town, this child was known for thinking outside of the box."

Following the bestselling *The Boy with Big, Big Feelings* and *The Girl with Big, Big Questions* comes a new story about a nonbinary kid with ideas so big and wild that grown-ups often dismiss them.

This innovative kid doesn't stop there, and with the help of their supportive Gram, they come up with the biggest idea yet. In a world that so often dismisses and excludes kids from decision-making, this book boldly suggests that not only should kids have a voice, but that their ideas just might be the ticket to making progress.

# All it takes to change the world is one big, big idea.





**Britney Winn Lee** is an author, editor, and United Methodist pastor living in Shreveport, Louisiana, with her creative husband and big-hearted son. Her books include *The Boy with Big, Big Feelings* (Beaming Books), *The Girl with Big, Big* 

Questions (Beaming Books), Rally: Communal Prayers for Lovers of Jesus and Justice (Upper Room), Deconstructed Do-Gooder: A Memoir about Learning Mercy the Hard Way (Cascade Books), and Good Night, Body: Finding Calm from Head to Toe (Tommy Nelson).



Jacob Souva is an illustrator who lives in Upstate New York with his wife and two boys. He's passionate about equipping kids with language to navigate their emotional well-being, laugh at silly things, and be inspired by big stories.

Jacob works digitally and loves to experiment with texture and color.

# The Kid with Big, Big Ideas

Publication: August 29, 2023 978-1-5064-8709-0 Hardcover 8.5 x 10 32 pages Ages 4 to 7 \$17.99

JUV039050 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Emotions & Feelings JUV039290 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Activism & Social Justice JUV039140 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Self-Esteem & Self-Reliance

# **Marketing and Selling Points**

Author blog tour with book giveaways National trade and library advertising Special outreach to educators and librarians Targeted publicity campaign to education, library, and trade media Digital and social media campaign targeting parents, teachers, and librarians Downloadable educator's guide Series sell sheet Social media influencer campaign to Bookstagrammers and bloggers

# Connect



Illustrator () @jacobsouva

- @TwoFish
- f /jacobsouva

twofishillustration.com

# FROM THE BESTSELLING BIG, BIG SERIES COMES A NEW ACTIVITY BOOK TO HELP KIDS NAVIGATE THEIR EMOTIONS.



# The Big, Big Feelings Activity Book

Written by Beaming Books · Illustrated by Jacob Souva

Everyone has feelings. But BIG feelings like anger, sadness, jealousy, embarrassment, and fear can be hard to process. Finding different ways to work through each emotion can help—drawing, writing, exercising, singing, and even breathing techniques. This consumable activity book helps kids identify, regulate, and cope with big feelings.



#### The Big, Big Feelings Activity Book

 Publication: July 18, 2023

 978-1-5064-9190-5

 Paperback 8.5 x 10

 64 pages

 Ages 5 to 8

 \$8.99

JNF001010 JUVENILE NONFICTION / Activity Books / Coloring JNF001000 JUVENILE NONFICTION / Activity Books / General JNF006020 JUVENILE NONFICTION / Art / Drawing

# Marketing and Selling Points

Inclusion in Beaming Books Back-to-School marketing campaign Extensive social media outreach and shareable graphics Series sell sheet National advertising campaign for whole Big, Big series

# ACROSTIC POEM

This is a poem where the first letter of each line spells out a word. Using each letter below as your starting point, create your own poem about feelings.

F			
E			
E			
L		 	
I			
N			
G			

# Also available in the Big, Big series:

# The BOY with BIG, BIG FEELINGS FEELINGS

978-1-5064-5450-4 32 pages | 8.5 x 10 | \$17.99



978-1-5064-7378-9 32 pages | 8.5 x 10 | \$17.99



978-1-5064-8709-0 32 pages | 8.5 x 10 | \$17.99





Jacob Souva is an illustrator who lives in Upstate New York with his wife and two boys. He's passionate about equipping kids with language to navigate their emotional well-being, laugh at silly things, and be inspired by big stories. Jacob works digitally and loves to experiment with texture and color.

# BALLOON BREATHING

You can do this exercise sitting or standing. Pretend your stomach is a balloon. Take a deep breath in through your nose to make the balloon bigger.

Then breathe out through your mouth. As you breathe out, purse your lips like you're blowing bubbles.





From Phyllis Alsdurf, author of Thanksgiving in the Woods and A Simple Christmas on the Farm, comes another cozy holiday story.



# Halloween in the Orchard

Written by Phyllis Alsdurf · Illustrated by Lisa Hunt

The apples are ready for harvest and Halloween is here! What better way to celebrate than by donning homemade costumes and going to the local apple orchard? In this charming story, a boy and his family enjoy everything the orchard has to offer, including searching for scarecrows, getting lost in a corn maze, and going on a hayride. Phyllis Alsdurf's nostalgic storytelling and Lisa Hunt's cozy illustrations will have you counting down the days until Halloween and apple orchard season!

Backmatter includes a search-and-find key for finding scarecrows in the book and instructions for decorating a homemade trick-or-treat bag.

Halloween in the Orchard is the third in the beloved Countryside Holidays series, along with Thanksgiving in the Woods and A Simple Christmas on the Farm.



#### Halloween in the Orchard

Publication: September 12, 2023 978-1-5064-8768-7 Hardcover 10 x 10 32 pages Ages 4 to 7 \$17.99

JUV017030 JUVENILE FICTION / Holidays & Celebrations / Halloween JUV017000 JUVENILE FICTION / Holidays & Celebrations / General (see also Religious / Christian / Holidays & Celebrations) JUV024000 JUVENILE FICTION / Lifestyles / Country Life

### **Marketing and Selling Points**

Downloadable Halloween activity pack

Halloween events/signings at local bookstores and fall festivals with known regional author Phyllis Alsdurf

Pitch for Halloween book roundups

National review coverage, targeting school and library publications

ARCs available at ALA Annual and promotion at other library conferences

Social media influencer campaign to Bookstagrammers and mom bloaaers

Inclusion in Halloween marketing campaign Submission to relevant ALA awards

# Connect Author

f /PhyllisAlsdurf

- phyllisalsdurf.com
- Illustrator Ilisa-hunt.co.uk



Also available from Phyllis Alsdurf:



978-1-5064-2508-5 40 pages | 10 x 10 | \$16.99



978-1-5064-7136-5 40 pages | 10 x 10 | \$17.99





**Phyllis Alsdurf** is a former journalism and creative writing professor and the author of *It's Milking Time* (Minnesota Historical Society Press), *Thanksgiving in the Woods* (Beaming Books), and *A Simple Christmas on the Farm* 

(Beaming Books). Phyllis holds a PhD in journalism, with an emphasis on media and religion, and master's degrees in humanities and journalism. She has written and edited for a variety of religious publications and contributed to several books on media and religion.



**Lisa Hunt** is a freelance illustrator living near London, England. She has a degree in fine art from Coventry University. She has illustrated several books and worked for publishers in the United States and the United Kingdom.

# AN AWE-INSPIRING CHRISTMAS TALE FROM MULTI-AWARD-WINNING POET NIKKI GRIMES.



# Lullaby for the King

Written by Nikki Grimes · Illustrated by Michelle Carlos

"The caravan traveled through wilderness, uphill and down, for hours that spun into days.

Then at last, glittering diamond-bright, Bethlehem appeared through the haze."

With glittering poetry and stunning watercolor artwork, *Lullaby for the King* ushers readers into the awe and wonder of the Christmas story. Animals from across the ancient Palestinian landscape lumber, gambol, crawl, fly, and parade toward Bethlehem with gifts worthy of the newborn King. Rare ebony wood, a finely tuned harp, mustard and saffron, a zither, apricot cakes, and other treasures are carried to the manger. The animals bow low and join the music of the angels in a welcoming lullaby.

*New York Times* bestselling author Nikki Grimes and illustrator Michelle Carlos bring together a captivating tale of awe, wonder, and imagination that is sure to become a holiday classic.



### Lullaby for the King

Publication: October 10, 2023 978-1-5064-8562-1 Hardcover 9 x 11 40 pages Ages 4 to 8 \$19.99

JUV017010 JUVENILE FICTION / Holidays & Celebrations / Christmas & Advent JUV033150 JUVENILE FICTION / Religious / Christian / Holidays & Celebrations JUV057000 JUVENILE FICTION / Stories in Verse (see also Poetry)

# **Marketing and Selling Points**

Major marketing campaign will include a book tour, appearances at conferences and festivals, advertising, and extensive publicity Inclusion in holiday marketing campaign Pitch for holiday gift guide roundups

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National media campaign and national review coverage National advertising campaign targeting gift-givers and

decision-makers

Promotion through Nikki Grimes's social platforms (16K followers on Twitter)

Extensive social media outreach and shareable graphics Submission to relevant awards

# Connect



- @nikkigrimes9
- f /nikki.grimes
- nikkigrimes.com
- Illustrator
- @misheru\_does\_art
- f /misherudoesart
- 🚺 michellecarlos.com







**Nikki Grimes** is a *New York Times* bestselling author and the recipient of the 2022 Virginia Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award, the 2020 ALAN Award, the 2017 Children's Literature Legacy Award, and the 2006 NCTE Award for Excellence

in Poetry for Children. Her works include Garvey's Choice, Bedtime for Sweet Creatures, Southwest Sunrise, Bronx Masquerade, Ordinary Hazards, One Last Word, Legacy: Women Poets of the Harlem Renaissance, and Kamala Harris: Rooted in Justice. Ms. Grimes lives in Corona, California.



**Michelle Carlos** is a Filipina illustrator based in Germany. Her art is largely informed by her lucid dreams, childhood memories, and global perspective based on her life abroad and travels with her

husband. On Christmases away from her birthplace, Michelle makes traditional lanterns while singing carols and drinking warm tea.

# MEET THE INFINITY RAINBOW CLUB—A PLACE FOR NEVRODIVERGENT STUDENTS WHERE DIFFERENCES ARE NOT ONLY ACCEPTED, BUT CELEBRATED.



# Nick and the Brick Builder Challenge

Written by Jen Malia · Illustrated by Peter Francis

When the Infinity Rainbow Club at school competes in a brick builder challenge, Nick can't wait to participate! Until he learns he must have a partner—the new girl. Nick wants to work alone. But to win, he'll have to figure out how to be part of a team.

A story about the universal struggle of learning to work together on a team, told from the perspective of an autistic child.

The Infinity Rainbow Club is a new chapter book series featuring five neurodivergent children in a club at their elementary school. The club provides a safe space for stims and different communication styles to be accepted and celebrated.



# Nick and the Brick Builder Challenge

### Publication: September 26, 2023

Hardcover: 978-1-5064-8595-9 5.5 x 7.5 \$15.99

128 pages

Ages 7 to 10

Paperback: 978-1-5064-9341-1 5.5 x 7.5 \$8.99

JUV045000 JUVENILE FICTION / Readers / Chapter Books JUV077000 JUVENILE FICTION / Neurodiversity JUV019000 JUVENILE FICTION / Humorous Stories

### **Marketing and Selling Points**

Inclusion in Beaming Books Back-to-School marketing campaign Pitch for Back-to-School roundups National review coverage Select author appearances and events School and library conference promotions Social media influencer campaign to Bookstagrammers, educators, and librarians

# Connect



A /MomWithAutism

jenmalia.com

#### Illustrator

@gothicartpete







# Violet and the Jurassic Land Exhibit Written by Jen Malia · Illustrated by Peter Francis

The Infinity Rainbow Club is volunteering at the local natural history museum where Violet's parents work. Violet loves setting up the new augmented reality exhibit, but she worries that something will go wrong. Her OCD has her repeatedly checking for errors. Can Violet find a way to trust her work and enjoy the exhibit?

The Infinity Rainbow Club is a new chapter book series featuring five neurodivergent children in a club at their elementary school. The club provides a safe space for stims and different communication styles to be accepted and celebrated.



**Jen Malia** is an associate professor of English and the creative writing coordinator at Norfolk State University. Originally from Pittsburgh, Jen currently lives in Virginia Beach with her husband and three kids. Jen has written for the

New York Times, the Washington Post, New York Magazine, Woman's Day, Glamour, Self, Catapult, and others. Jen is the author of Too Sticky! Sensory Issues with Autism. Jen was diagnosed with ASD in her late thirties and has three neurodivergent kids with different combinations of ASD, ADHD, OCD, dyslexia, and dysgraphia.

**Peter Francis** has created illustrations for children's books for over twenty years. He lives in England.

# Violet and the Jurassic Land Exhibit

### Publication: October 24, 2023

Hardcover: 978-1-5064-8597-3 5.5 x 7.5 \$15.99

128 pages

Ages 7 to 10

Paperback: 978-1-5064-9342-8 5.5 x 7.5 \$8.99

JUV045000 JUVENILE FICTION / Readers / Chapter Books JUV077000 JUVENILE FICTION / Neurodiversity JUV019000 JUVENILE FICTION / Humorous Stories

# **Marketing and Selling Points**

Inclusion in Beaming Books Back-to-School marketing campaign Pitch for Back-to-School roundups National review coverage Select author appearances and events School and library conference promotions Social media influencer campaign to Bookstagrammers, educators, and librarians

# "We are brown. We are beautiful. We are perfect."



# **Brown Girls Rule**

Written by Ashok K. Banker · Illustrated by Brittney Bond

An empowering acclamation for girls bearing melanin of all kinds, *Brown Girls Rule* centers and uplifts girls of color in an inspiring poem that is one part love letter, two parts battle anthem. Ashok Banker and Brittney Bond bring this song to life with a brilliant array of brown girls as politicians, athletes, scientists, teachers, queens, and leaders in countless other roles where brown girls *rule*. Triumphant and uplifting, this picture book is a powerful reminder for girls of color that they may be young, but they are mighty.



#### **Brown Girls Rule**

Publication: October 17, 2023 978-1-5064-8415-0 Hardcover 11 x 9 32 pages Ages 5 to 8 \$18.99

JUV074000 JUVENILE FICTION / Diversity & Multicultural JUV039140 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Self-Esteem & Self-Reliance JUV006000 JUVENILE FICTION / Business, Careers, Occupations

# **Marketing and Selling Points**

Inclusion in Black History Month marketing campaign

Pitch for Black History Month roundups

Beaming Books Instagram Illustrator Takeover

Social media influencer campaign to BIPOC influencers, bloggers, and tastemakers

National advertising campaign targeting BIPOC media and trade media National review coverage

Select author appearances and events

Downloadable educator's guide available

# Connect

- Author
- @ashokkbanker
- @ashokkbanker
- Ashokkbanker

### Illustrator

@prismaviolet\_



Ashok Banker is widely acknowledged for pioneering English-language genre fiction in India, having authored over 80 books in various categories. As a neurodivergent (AuDHD) and non-binary writer, they are passionate about inclusivity and representation. Their debut picture book, *I Am Brown*, won the Bank Street College Prize, made the Book Trust Great Books list, and was translated into several languages. They currently live with their family in Southern California.

**Brittney Bond** was born in sunny South Florida to a Jamaican family. She is currently based on the East Coast. A self-taught artist, she works primarily digitally with a passion for using appealing color palettes, intriguing

lighting, and a magical and positive aura throughout her illustrations.



Mae and Gerty and the Matter with Matter

Written by Elaine Vickers · Illustrated by Erica Salcedo

Mae is fed up with her parents thinking her younger sister, Gerty, is a science genius. But as Mae learns that science is all about asking questions and trying new things, she realizes that she can be a scientist too and joins her sister to explore all types of matter. A humorous and heartfelt introduction to the science of matter.





**Elaine Vickers** is an award-winning author of picture books (*Thankful, How* to Make a Memory) as well as novels for middle graders (*Like Magic, Paper Chains, Half Moon Summer*) and young adults (*Fadeaway, Where There's* 

*Smoke*). She lives in southern Utah with her husband and three kids, where she spends her time writing, teaching college chemistry, and exploring in the lab and in the great outdoors.



**Erica Salcedo** is a freelance illustrator. She holds a master's degree in graphic design and illustration. Erica lives in Spain.

# Mae and Gerty and the Matter with Matter

Publication: September 19, 2023 978-1-5064-8541-6 Hardcover 8.5 x 10 32 pages Ages 4 to 8 \$18.99

JUV029000 JUVENILE FICTION / Science & Nature / General JUV013070 JUVENILE FICTION / Family / Siblings JUV019000 JUVENILE FICTION / Humorous Stories

# **Marketing and Selling Points**

Special outreach to STEM professionals and science teachers				
Inclusion in Beaming Books Back-to-School marketing campaign				
Downloadable educator's guide				
National review coverage				
School and library conference promotions, including ALA Annual				
School and library advertising campaign				
Extensive social media outreach with shareable graphics				
Special mailing with bubbles activity materials				
Author classroom and library visits and storytimes				
Submission for Utah Book Awards and other relevant awards				

# Connect





# **Little Mole Gives Thanks**

Written by Glenys Nellist · Illustrated by Sally Garland

Pinecone pie, acorn stew, mushroom soup! Little Mole's big table is all set for his fancy fall feast, and he can't wait to welcome three very important guests. But when each of these guests delivers the news that they won't be able to attend, Little Mole doesn't know what to do. Who will fill his table? Disappointment turns into gratitude as his community shows Little Mole what true friendship looks like, just in time for the big feast he and Mama worked so hard to prepare.

In this fourth installment in the Little Mole series, author Glenys Nellist and illustrator Sally Garland team up again to bring a welcoming and inclusive tale. Children will relate to Little Mole's feelings of disappointment and be inspired to turn to their friends for comfort when things don't go the way they planned. Beloved Little Mole is back—this time with a heartfelt story about friendship, inclusion, and the annual fall feast.





**Glenys Nellist** is the author of multiple children's books, including the Little Mole series. She is also the author of the bestselling '*Twas the Evening of Christmas* and the popular series Love Letters from God and Snuggle Time. Her writing

reflects a deep passion for helping children discover joy in the world. Glenys lives in Michigan with her husband, David.



**Sally Garland** was brought up in the small town of Alness in the Highlands of Scotland and studied illustration at Edinburgh College of Art. She currently works in Glasgow, where she lives with her partner and young son.

# Also available from the Little Mole series:



978-1-5064-4874-9



978-1-5064-4875-6



978-1-5064-7859-3

#### **Little Mole Gives Thanks**

Publication: August 22, 2023 978-1-5064-8252-1 Hardcover 9 x 9 32 pages Ages 3 to 8 \$17.99

JUV017060 JUVENILE FICTION / Holidays & Celebrations / Thanksgiving JUV039060 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Friendship JUV039050 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Emotions & Feelings

#### Marketing and Selling Points

Inclusion in Beaming Books Thanksgiving marketing campaign Pitch for fall and Thanksgiving book roundups

Downloadable activity pack featuring beloved animal characters Select author appearances and events in the Midwest, featuring Glenys Nellist's Little Mole puppet

School and library conferences, including ALA Annual

National advertising campaign, targeting trade media as well as school and library media

Promotion via author's robust social media platform and monthly e-newsletter

Instagram author takeover and extensive social media outreach

# Connect Author @@glenysnellist @@GlenysNellist ()/GlenysNellistAuthor ()/GlenysNellist.com Illustrator ()@@sally\_garland\_illustration



# An engaging look at emotional intelligence through traits of cats.



# Kaia's Big Felines Written and Illustrated by Aura Lewis

Kaia experiences all kinds of emotions, and she relates them to various types of cats. Cheetah is fast and fearless, Leopard loves the spotlight, but Tiger has a temper. When Kaia's felines become overwhelming, she takes some time to herself to rest and reset.



**Aura Lewis** is an author-illustrator and designer with an MFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York City. She is inspired by fashion from around the world, playful color, vintage design, and popular culture. Aura's works

include Gloria's Voice, Spectacular Sisters, and The Illustrated Feminist.

# **Kaia's Big Felines**

Publication: August 29, 2023 978-1-5064-8822-6 Hardcover 8.5 x 10 32 pages Ages 4 to 8 \$18.99

JUV002050 JUVENILE FICTION / Animals / Cats JUV039050 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Emotions & Feelings JUV039140 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Self-Esteem & Self-Reliance

# **Marketing and Selling Points**

Inclusion in Back-to-School marketing campaign Downloadable educator's guide National review coverage Features at school and library conferences and events, including ALA Annual Pitch for Back-to-School roundups School and library advertising campaign Promotion via author's social media platforms Submission to relevant ALA awards

# Connect





auralewis.com

16 877-373-0706 / BEAMINGBOOKS.COM



When Rosie visits her abuela, they find a way to connect despite speaking different languages.



# I Love You Mucho Mucho

Written and Illustrated by Rachel Más Davidson

Rosie is so excited to see her abuela and tell her everything that's been going on—but Abuela doesn't speak English, and Rosie doesn't speak Spanish. They quickly learn over lunch, though, that hunger has no language—and neither does love!

Based on Rachel's own experience, this story speaks to the power to communicate outside of spoken language.



**Rachel Más Davidson** is a Cuban American author-illustrator who enjoys creating positive stories and art. She previously taught K-12 art and gave private art lessons. Rachel earned a BFA from the Art Institute of Dallas. She currently lives in Texas.

# I Love You Mucho Mucho

Publication: September 5, 2023 978-1-5064-8866-0 Hardcover 8.5 x 10 32 pages Ages 4 to 8 \$18.99

JUV074000 JUVENILE FICTION / Diversity & Multicultural JUV013030 JUVENILE FICTION / Family / Multigenerational JUV011030 JUVENILE FICTION / People & Places / United States / Hispanic & Latino

### **Marketing and Selling Points**

Promotion and marketing campaign during Hispanic Heritage Month Pitch for Hispanic Heritage Month roundups Downloadable educator's guide and Spanish vocabulary flashcards National media campaign targeting schools and libraries Promotions at school and library conferences and events Extensive social media outreach with shareable graphics Submission to relevant ALA awards

#### Connect



@rachelmasdavidson

🖬 rachelmasdavidson.com



# **Kiki Kicks**

Written by Jane Yolen and Ariel Stemple · Illustrated by John Ledda

Kiki has watched her mama practice karate for a long time, and now she wants to learn too. She wants to become strong and steady like a mountain. The bullies at school are strong for the wrong reasons. They make Kiki feel small. But today at her first karate lesson, everything changes.

Award-winning author Jane Yolen joins forces with debut author Ariel Stemple in this picture book about reclaiming strength, confidence, and peace through martial arts. This lyrical story of self-empowerment at a martial arts studio is woven around the poetic lines of Yolen's well-known poem "Karate Kid," used by educators and librarians for decades. Backmatter includes personal notes from the authors about how this story came to be and how martial arts helped save Stemple who was bullied as a child.

# "I want to be strong for the right reasons."





Jane Yolen is the author of well over 400 published books, including the Caldecott-winning *Owl Moon*, and the multimillion bestselling How Do Dinosaurs series, plus novels, short story collections, poetry collections,

and many picture books. She is the recipient of countless awards, has six honorary doctorates from colleges and universities, and currently teaches creative writing.



**Ariel Stemple** is an author from Minneapolis, Minnesota, with a BFA from Hamline University. They come from a family of writers, including Jane Yolen and Adam Stemple. They trained in a martial arts style called wu chien

pai for ten years. Kiki Kicks is their debut picture book.



John Ledda was born and raised in southeast Michigan. He is also the illustrator for *Big Bear Was Not the Same* by Joanna Rowland (Beaming Books) as well as many other titles.

### **Kiki Kicks**

Publication: October 10, 2023 978-1-5064-8563-8 Hardcover 8.5 x 10 32 pages Ages 4 to 8 \$19.99

JUV039230 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Bullying JUV039140 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Self-Esteem & Self-Reliance JUV032070 JUVENILE FICTION / Sports & Recreation / Martial Arts

#### **Marketing and Selling Points**

Promotion through Jane Yolen's extensive social networks (8K followers on Facebook, 12K followers on Twitter) Special appearances by known author National media campaign and review coverage Special promotions at trade shows and school and library conferences and events School and library advertising campaign Social media influencer campaign to parents, teachers, and librarians Submission to relevant ALA awards Downloadable featuring karate moves



# What If I Can't Explain God?



# What If I Can't Explain God? Written by Jennifer Grant · Illustrated by Hsulynn Pang

Explaining who God is can be really hard. Especially for grown-ups. They like to use confusing words like "Trinity," "outside of time," and "everywhere all at once." What's a kid to do if they can't explain God? Maybe it's not such a problem after all. The little girl in this story realizes there are so many things in the world that are hard to explain, but not hard to accept. Like how people speak in many languages; how the sun is a color, a feeling, and also light; and how people in her family have different names for each other. So what if you can't explain God? What matters is that God loves you—and that's not confusing at all!

In this new picture book by the author of *Maybe God Is Like That Too* (Beaming Books), children will learn that accepting a bit of mystery is part of what it means to have faith. "I've tried asking grown-ups to explain God, but they aren't very good at it."





Jennifer Grant is the award-winning author of picture books for children and books for adults. Her books include Maybe God Is Like That Too, Maybe I Can Love My Neighbor Too (both, Beaming Books), and Dimming the Day

(Broadleaf Books). Grant's work has appeared in *Woman's Day, Chicago Parent, Patheos,* and *Chicago Tribune.* Grant holds a master's degree in English literature with concentrations in creative writing and critical theory from Southern Methodist University in Dallas. A lifelong Episcopalian and mother of four, she lives in Chicago with her husband.



Hsulynn Pang is a Malaysian illustrator who enjoyed much of her childhood chasing after locusts and butterflies in her backyard, digging for earthworms, and collecting seashells from the beach nearby. This is quite possibly why she

finds herself painting lots of nature-inspired artworks. In addition to *What If I Can't Explain God?*, Hsulynn illustrated *Gardens Are for Growing* by Chelsea Tornetto (Familius, 2022) and *Grow* (Clarion Books, 2021).

### What If I Can't Explain God?

Publication: October 24, 2023 978-1-5064-8304-7 Hardcover 9 x 9 32 pages Ages 4 to 7 \$17.99

JUV033100 JUVENILE FICTION / Religious / Christian / Family JUV039280 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Religion & Faith JUV033170 JUVENILE FICTION / Religious / Christian / Learning Concepts

# **Marketing and Selling Points**

Events and appearances with beloved author Jennifer Grant in the Chicago area	
Features at select Christian events, like Wild Goose Festival	
Downloadable discussion guide	
National media campaign	
Social media influencer campaign to progressive Christian influencers	
Email campaign to children's pastors, Christian education directors, and lay leaders	
Print and digital advertising in select Christian publications	(

# Connect





# **Remembering Sundays with Grandpa**

Written by Lauren H. Kerstein · Illustrated by Nanette Regan

Henry and his mom feel Grandpa's love in all his special places: in the rocking chair where he read stories with silly voices, in the cucumbers that always made him hiccup, and in the jewelry box he used to wind up so they could dance. As they remember the many loving moments they shared, they work through their grief. Remembering Sundays with Grandpa illustrates how even when someone is no longer part of the physical world, their love lives on forever.

They danced silly moves, just like Grandp

Lauren H. Kerstein is an author and psychotherapist. She is a Jersey girl at heart who currently lives in Colorado with her husband, their daughters, and their rescue dogs. Lauren is the author of *Home for a While* and the Rosie

the Dragon and Charlie picture book series. She runs #ReVISIONweek and is a member of SCBWI and 12x12.



**Nanette Regan** studied fine arts at the Slade School of Art in London. She lives in Jersey, a tiny island between England and France.

# Remembering Sundays with Grandpa

Publication: November 7, 2023 978-1-5064-8741-0 Hardcover 8.5 x 10 32 pages Ages 4 to 8 \$17.99

JUV039030 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Death, Grief, Bereavement JUV039050 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Emotions & Feelings JUV013030 JUVENILE FICTION / Family / Multigenerational

# **Marketing and Selling Points**

Inclusion in Grief Awareness marketing campaign alongside other Beaming Books titles that support kids through difficult times National review coverage

Select author appearances and events in Colorado area

School and library conference promotions

School and library advertising campaign

Submission to relevant ALA Awards

Extensive social media outreach and shareable graphics Downloadable discussion guide

# Connect





# Pickles is a bird of a different feather.



# Be Your Own Bird

Written and Illustrated by Russ Willms

While the rest of the flock sticks together, Pickles does her own thing. They practice their downward spirals; Pickles practices her downward dog. They chatter away; Pickles meditates. But when danger arrives, Pickles is the only bird who isn't scared. Will the flock learn from Pickles, or will they all become hawk soup?

Full of humor—and even some bird yoga—*Be Your Own Bird* teaches kids about mindfulness, self-confidence, and the importance of always being themselves.



**Russ Willms** has always had a passion for art and fun. His work as an illustrator has been featured in hundreds of magazines, books, and ad campaigns throughout the world. Russ brings his humor to several picture books as

both author and illustrator, including *Elephants Do Not Belong in Trees* (Orca Books, 2021) and *Quiet, Please!* (Orca Books, 2022). He created, wrote, and illustrated the app Zooper ABC Animals, and his work has won a Parents' Choice Award, a Mr. Christie Book Gold Award, and a Governor General Awards finalist rank. Russ lives in Victoria, British Columbia.

# Be Your Own Bird

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# NEW IN PAPERBACK

# **Superheroes Don't Babysit**

Written by Amber Hendricks • Illustrated by Kyle Reed

Superheroes leap buildings, chase bad guys, and save the city from the evil Emperor Zog. Superheroes DON'T babysit. Except when their dad asks them to. In an epic battle of sibling rivalry, will this superhero finally meet her match? Or will she find exactly what she's been missing all along?

In *Superheroes Don't Babysit*, author Amber Hendricks tells a story full of humor and heart, and illustrator Kyle Reed's superpowered illustrations pack a punch with their bold colors and sharp lines. This book is fun to look at and to read with siblings who consider themselves rivals or friends, or maybe something in between.



In addition to Superheroes Don't Babysit, Amber Hendricks is the author of Sophie and Little Star, Extraordinary Ordinary Ella, and the Little Nature Explorers board book series. She lives in Missouri with her husband and two children



**Kyle Reed** is an illustrator whose work has appeared in children's books, magazines, animation, and advertising. He lives in Ontario, Canada.

# NEW IN PAPERBACK

# The Star in the Christmas Play

Written by Lynne Marie • Illustrated by Lorna Hussey

All of the savanna animals are excited to audition for the school Christmas Play, except Raffi the giraffe. He's too tall to play baby Jesus, or Joseph, or even a manger animal. He feels discouraged, until he realizes that he's just the right size to play the most important part.

This endearing Christmas story for ages 4 to 8 will resonate with children who are still learning to be comfortable in their own skin.



**Lynne Marie** is the author of several picture books including *Let's Eat! Mealtime Around the World,* illustrated by Parwinder Singh, and *Moldilocks and the 3 Scares,* illustrated by David Rodriguez Lorenzo.

**Lorna Hussey** is the author and illustrator of *Little Lost Unicorn* (Sterling, 2009) and the illustrator of *Good Good Father*, by Chris Tomlin and Pat Barrett (Thomas Nelson, 2016); *Hedgehog's 100th Day of School*, by Lynne Marie (Scholastic, 2017); *This Bear's Birthday*, by Alyssa Satin Capucilli (Henry Holt, 2017); and *Pigloo*, by Anne Marie Pace (Henry Holt, 2016). Lorna lives in a small village called Llansantffraid in Wales.

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