



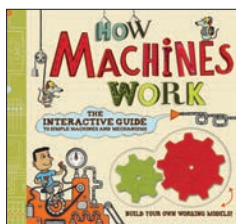
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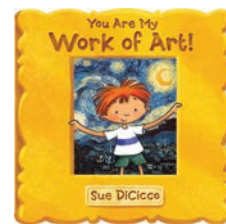
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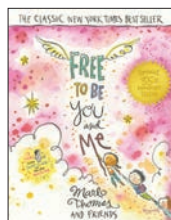
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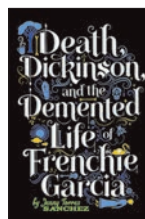
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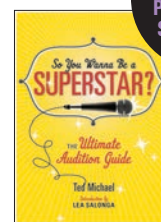
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Dear reader,

At Running Press Kids, we have always strived to publish unique books for a broad range of ages and interests, and with our Fall 2013 list, I think we have proven especially true to our mission.


From Peanuts to Hello Kitty, we have a wonderful history of bringing some of the most beloved characters to life in book format. This season, we are thrilled to continue the tradition with the Pajanimals—a cuddly cast of animals (yes, in pajamas) from the brilliant and creative minds of the Jim Henson Company. Full of questions, wonder, and curiosity, Apollo, Sweet Pea Sue, Cowbella, and Squacky are the perfect shepherds of bedtime.

For our Running Press Teens line, we introduce a fairytale world full of political intrigue in Jenny Lundquist's YA debut, *The Princess in the Opal Mask*. For those with a taste for the ultra-realistic, we bring you Eric Devine's *Dare Me*, and for those who want something in between, allow yourself to be pulled into the subconscious of a comatose teenage girl in Elizabeth Pulford and Angus Gomes's *Broken*. But if quick bites of all types of stories is your pleasure, we offer our latest YA anthology, *Starry-Eyed*.

Of course, the fall and winter holidays are moments when many take the time to cherish the family, friends, and warmth that surround them. The Pajanimals remind the youngest reader of such in *Squacky and the Gift of Christmas*, while *Steampunk: Charles Dickens A Christmas Carol* reinterprets a traditional and classic tale in a most unexpected and innovative illustrated way.

For all of the diversity in our list, at least one common denominator binds these authors, artists, and their books: a dedication to presenting the world and human emotion as authentically as they are experienced. We hope the heart of these stories rings as true with you as their creators intended.

Sincerely,



Christopher Navratil
Publisher

Introducing Jim Henson's

PAJANIMALS

Bedtime Books!

Meet Squacky, Sweet Pea Sue, Cowbella, and Apollo, four of the friendliest and snuggliest bedtime pals! Airing on Sprout and NBC Kids, Jim Henson's hit TV series, *Pajanimals*, tackles bedtime and everyday challenges by providing comfort and community through these lovable animal characters and their cozy adventures. With traditional Henson puppetry, song, and story, the Pajanimals are the ultimate best friends who model courage and growth.

For the first time, *Pajanimals* can now be enjoyed in book-form! Featuring stories and themes from beloved episodes and available in a variety of formats, these books are a perfect addition to the nightly routine for parents and their little ones.

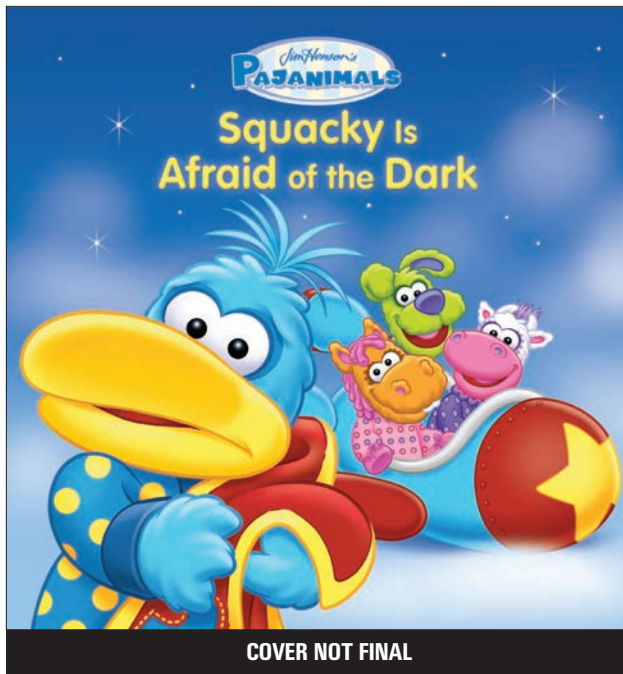
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SQUACKY IS AFRAID OF THE DARK

Squacky is afraid to go to sleep in the dark. Luckily, the rest of the Pajanimals know just what to do! They travel to The Night Sky where the Moon reminds him that he is always shining bright and watching over the Pajanimals.

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Lots of things are going wrong for Apollo today. When he is feeling too angry to sleep, he and the Pajanimals travel to The Night Sky. The Moon reminds Apollo that though there are bad days, tomorrow is always a brand *new* day!

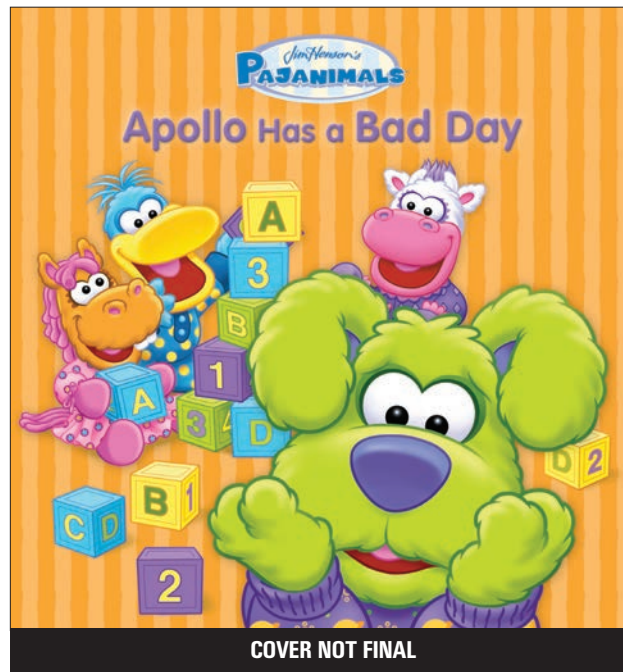
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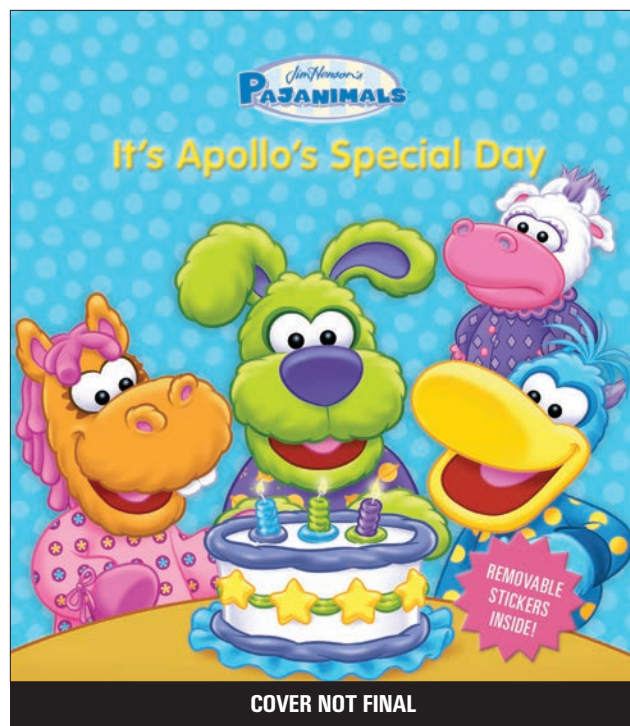
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IT'S APOLLO'S SPECIAL DAY

Tomorrow is Apollo's birthday and the Pajanimals are excited to celebrate—all except for Cowbella. She wishes that it was *her* birthday so she can get all the cake and presents. But when they visit Mr. Happy Birthday in Birthday Land, Cowbella discovers that the fun part about a birthday party is spending time with the ones you love.

Includes removable stickers to complete the story!

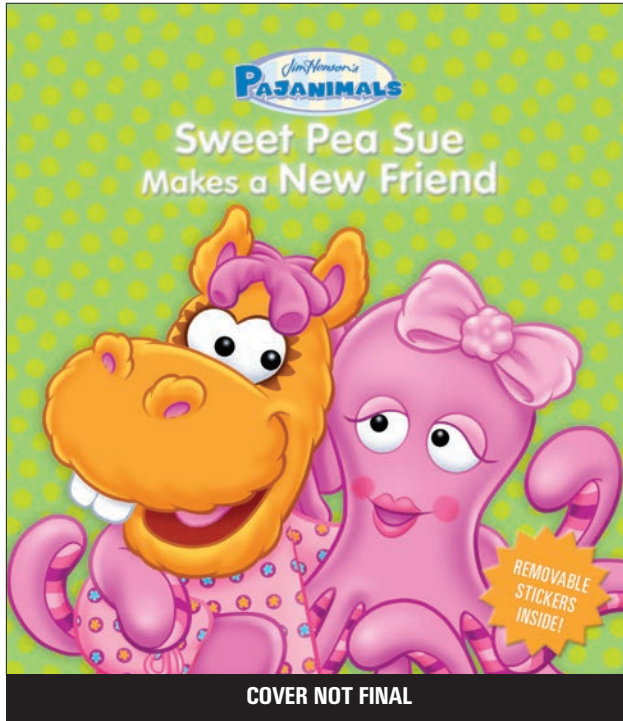
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Sweet Pea Sue can't sleep at bedtime because she's scared of a picture of an octopus she saw in a book. When the Pajanimals go to the Big, Blue Sea, they meet Ellie, a real octopus. To Sweet Pea Sue's surprise, Ellie is scared of the Pajanimals. The two realize that there is nothing to be afraid of because they just want to be friends.

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The Pajanimals are excited that Christmas is coming! Squacky really hopes he gets the new Fantastic Splash Super Sub, but then becomes worried that Santa won't bring it. The Pajanimals travel to The Night Sky where the Moon reminds Squacky that Christmas isn't about the presents you get, it's about spending time with the ones you love and sharing Christmas traditions together.

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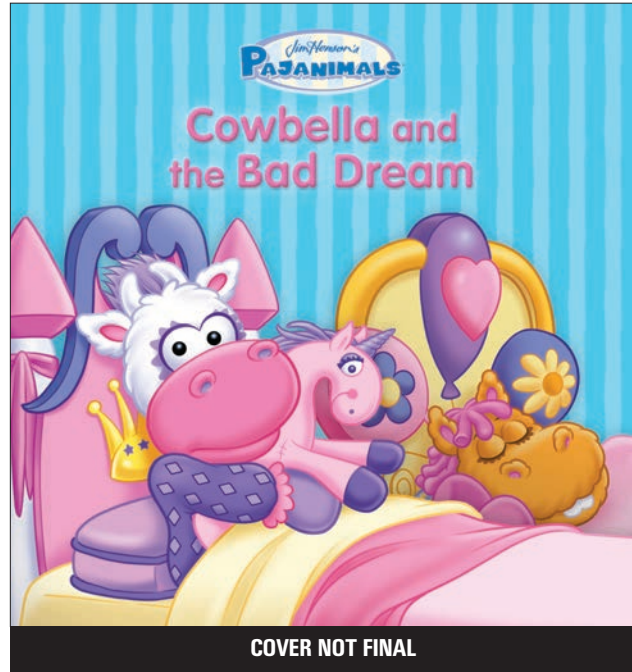
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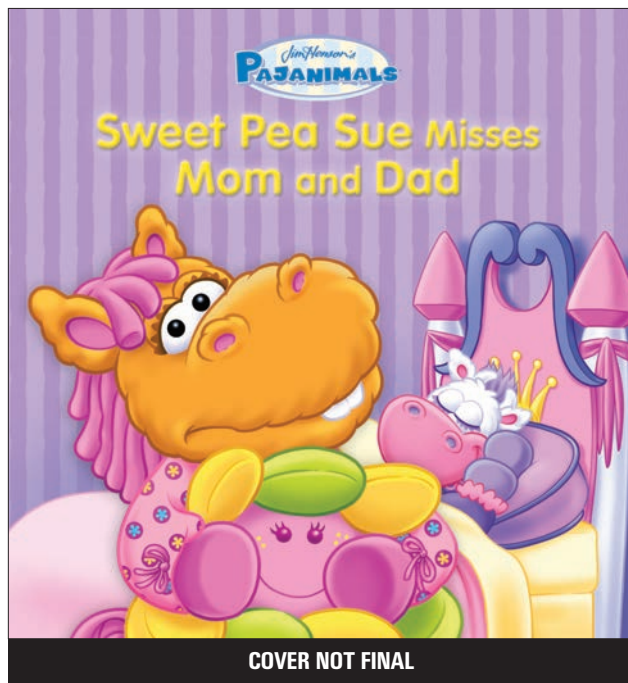
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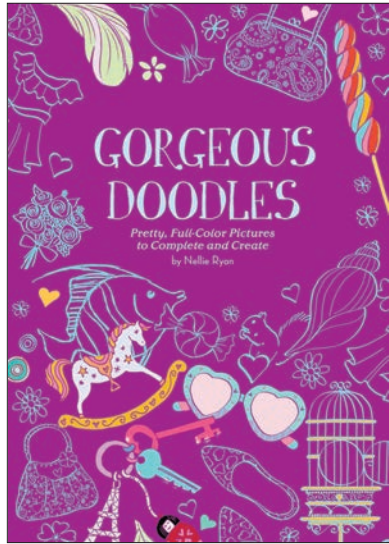
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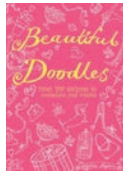
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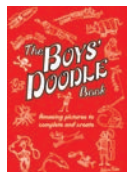
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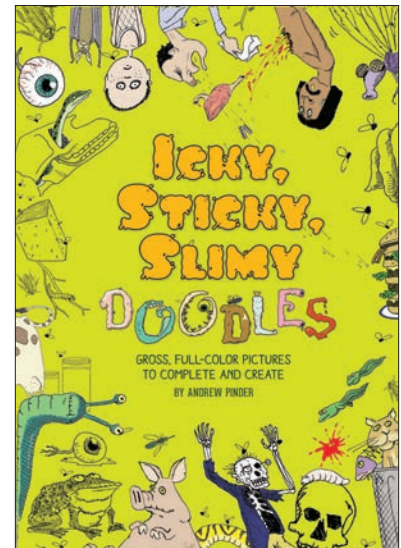
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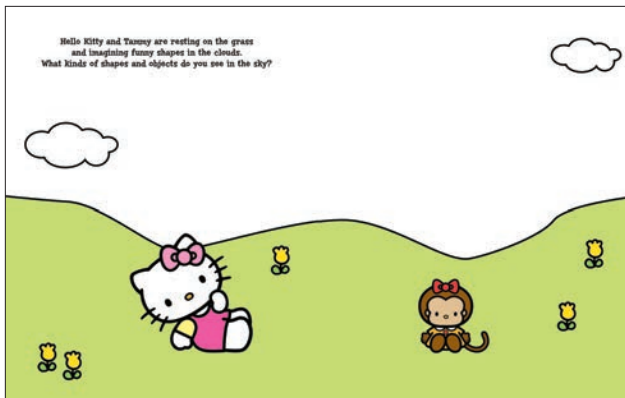
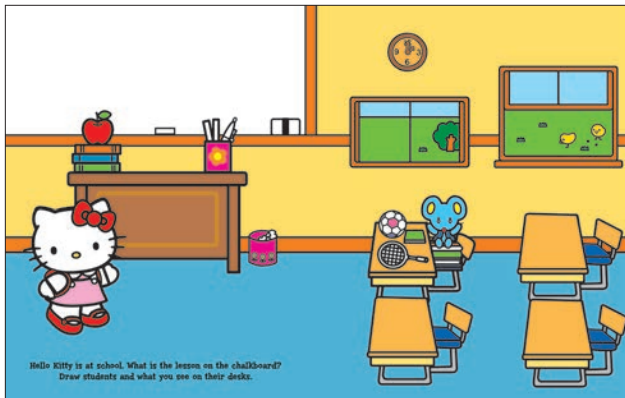


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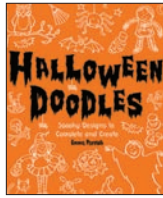
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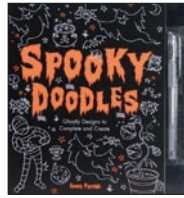
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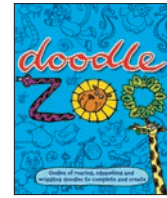
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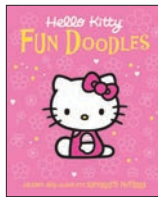
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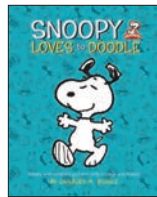
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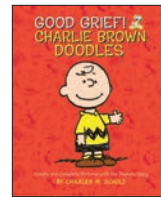
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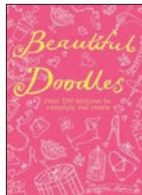


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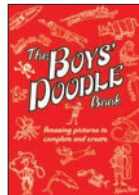


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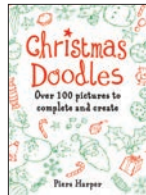
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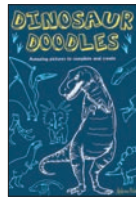
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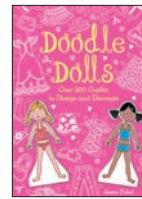
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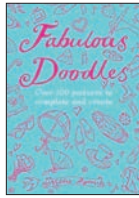
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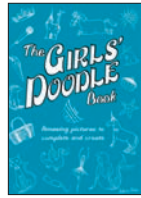
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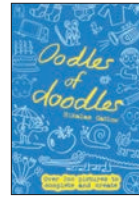
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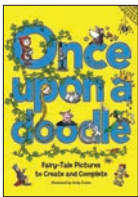


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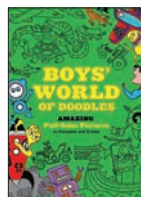
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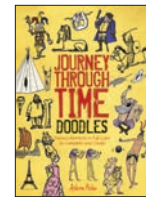
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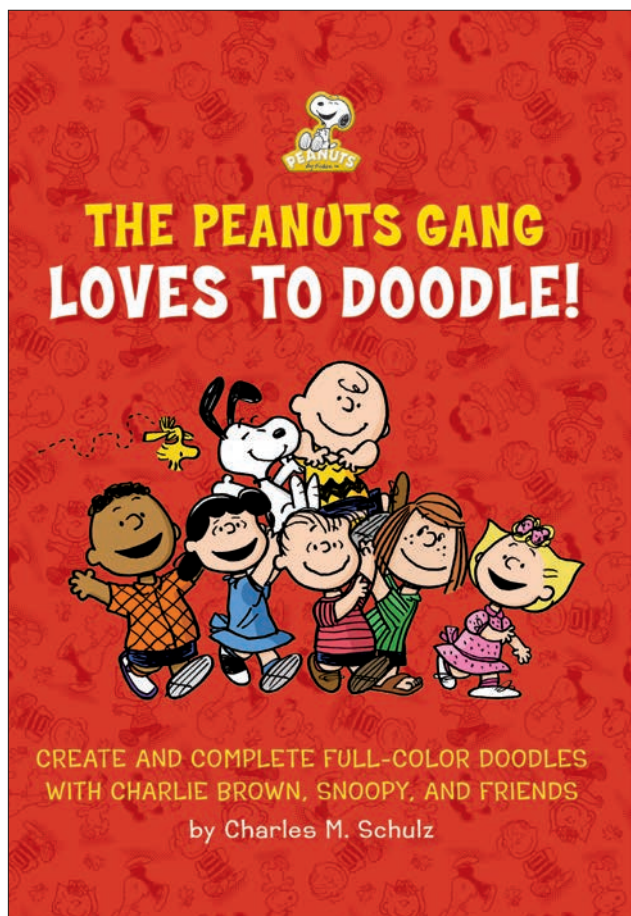


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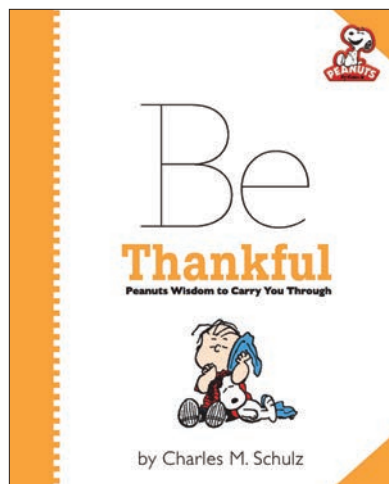
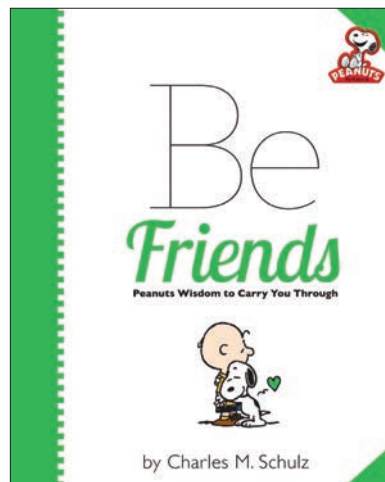
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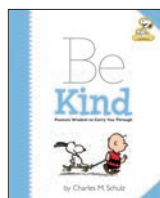
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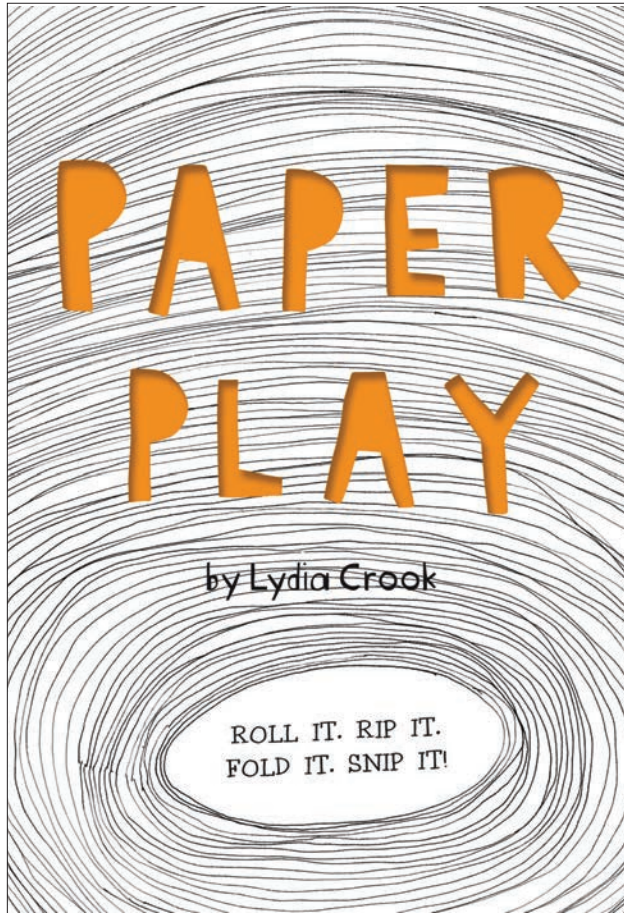


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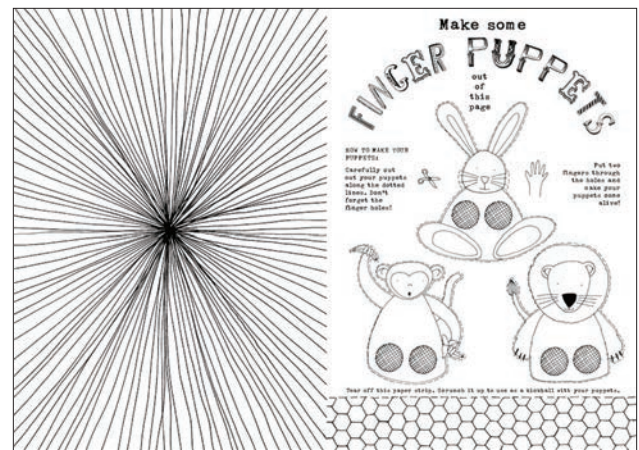
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by Lydia Crook

Find out how much fun a simple piece of paper can be! Every page of this book can be used to play games or make fantastic paper creations—from a paper snowflake, pretty beads, or a never-ending card, to a magic trick, a paper town, and more!

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Lydia Crook graduated from Winchester School of Art with a degree in fashion. Her love of paper began when she started to work part-time for the internationally acclaimed paper engineer, Corina Fletcher. She now works from a little studio, nestled on a farm just outside Lewes, East Sussex, England, where she designs and creates a variety of pop-up books and ornate paper cuttings. Visit Lydia online at lydiacrook.co.uk.



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Presented in their entirety, these celebrated Christmas tales offer a fresh and edgy reading experience in one unique and deluxe edition. In time for the holidays, *Steampunk Charles Dickens: A Christmas Carol* is the perfect gift for fans of Dickens and steampunk!



Zdenko Basic is the illustrator of many books including *Steampunk: Poe*, *Steampunk: Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*, and *Steampunk: H.G. Wells*. He is the director of the critically acclaimed short film *Guliver*, and works as a costume and set designer for The Merlin Theatre. He was the recipient of the 2008 Grigor Vitez award for Best Illustration in Children's Books and also the 2009 Croatian Association of Artists of Applied Arts award for best Young Artist. He lives in Croatia.

"External heat and cold had little influence on Scrooge. No warmth could warm, no wintry weather chill him. No wind that blew was bitterer than he. . . . Foul weather didn't know where to have him."
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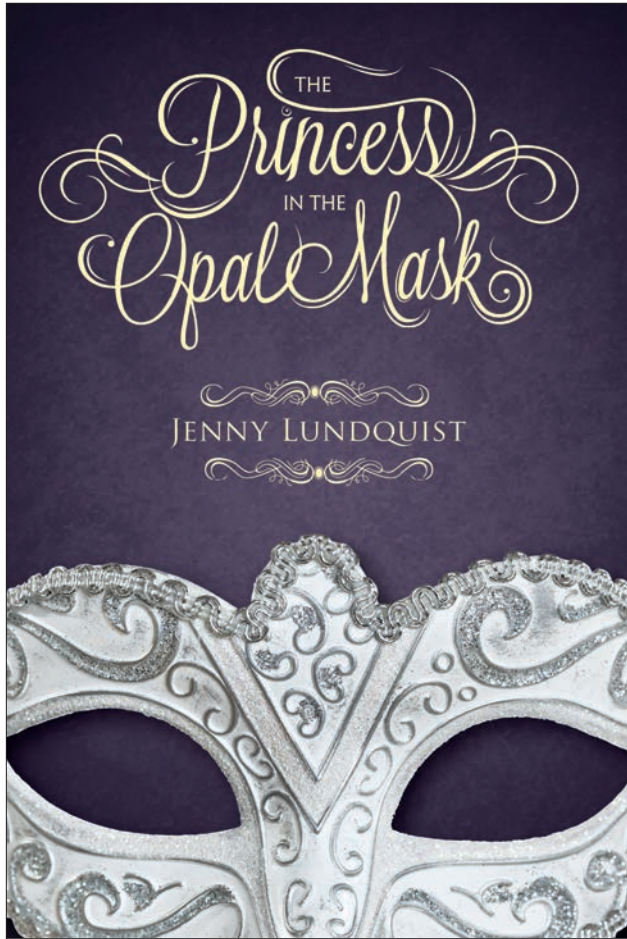
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THE PRINCESS IN THE OPAL MASK

by Jenny Lundquist

In the faraway land of Tulan, sixteen-year-old orphan Elara has spent her entire life trying to find out her real name. While she serves for the cruel and manipulative Ogden family, she feels that pertinent information about her past is being withheld. Meanwhile, in the kingdom of Galandria, Princess Wilha (known as “The Masked Princess”), is plagued with questions of her own. Despite being the most recognizable icon in the kingdom, why has she been forced to wear a mask every day since birth? And why won't her own father, the king, explain why she must cover her face at all times?

When Elara and Wilha are brought face to face, an intimate connection is exposed, as well as answers that force them to play the part of the other. As both are thrust into lives they never knew existed, hidden conspiracies begin to surface, and the fate of two opposing kingdoms rests squarely on their untrained shoulders.

Told in alternating voices, Jenny Lundquist's thrilling debut YA series re-imagines *Cinderella* and *The Man in the Iron Mask*. This fairytale world filled with suspense and secrets offers two unforgettable journeys that could lead these characters to roles they were always born to play.



Jenny Lundquist was born and raised in Huntington Beach, CA. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Intercultural Studies with a minor in TESOL at Biola University. Lundquist has published two middle-grade books, *Seeing Cinderella* and *Plastic Polly*. She lives in northern California with her

husband and two sons. Visit her online at jennylundquist.com and Twitter [@Jenny_Lundquist](https://twitter.com/Jenny_Lundquist).

*“Somewhere in the kingdom of Galandria, someone knows my real name. . . .
Somewhere, someone must remember me, and my name.”*

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BROKEN

by Elizabeth Pulford
illustrations by Angus Gomes

Zara has one immediate and urgent goal, and it is to find her brother, Jem. She faces a few complications, though, not the least of which is searching for him in her subconscious while she is in a coma.

Zara's coma has pulled her into the world of Jem's favorite comic-book hero. But no matter how quickly Zara literally draws her own escape, she is taunted deeper into the fantastical darkness by the comic's villain, Morven. All the while she is caught between the present with visits from friends and family in the hospital and the past by flashbacks of a traumatic event long ago forgotten.

The search for her brother may help Zara see the light, but in order to find him, she must face her innermost secrets first. In a multi-layered tale that intertwines comic-book/graphic novel elements with first-person narration, Elizabeth Pulford explores the dimensions of hope, love, loyalty, denial, and truth.

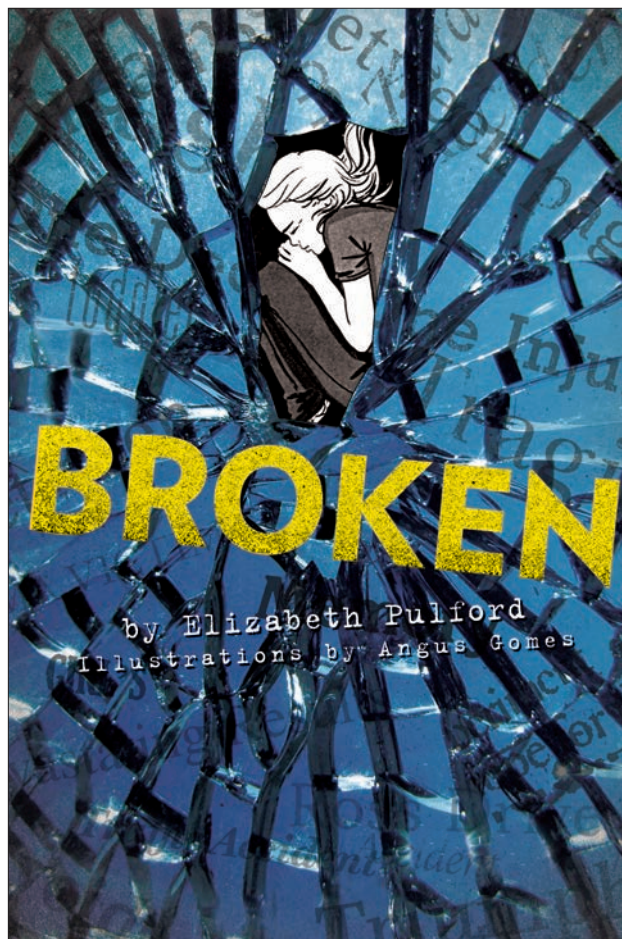


Elizabeth Pulford is a writer and three-time finalist for the New Zealand Post Book Awards for Children & Young Adults. Her previous books include *Castlecliff & the Fossil Princess*, *Blackthorn's Betrayal*, and *Tussock*. She lives in Waikouaiti, New Zealand, with her husband. You can visit her online

at elizabethpulford.co.nz.



Angus Gomes is an illustrator who lives in Auckland, New Zealand.



“At her touch my chest tightens, my heart thuds, and my head begins to hurt really bad. I feel like the past is starting to leak out. But I won't let it. . . . Not after all these years.”

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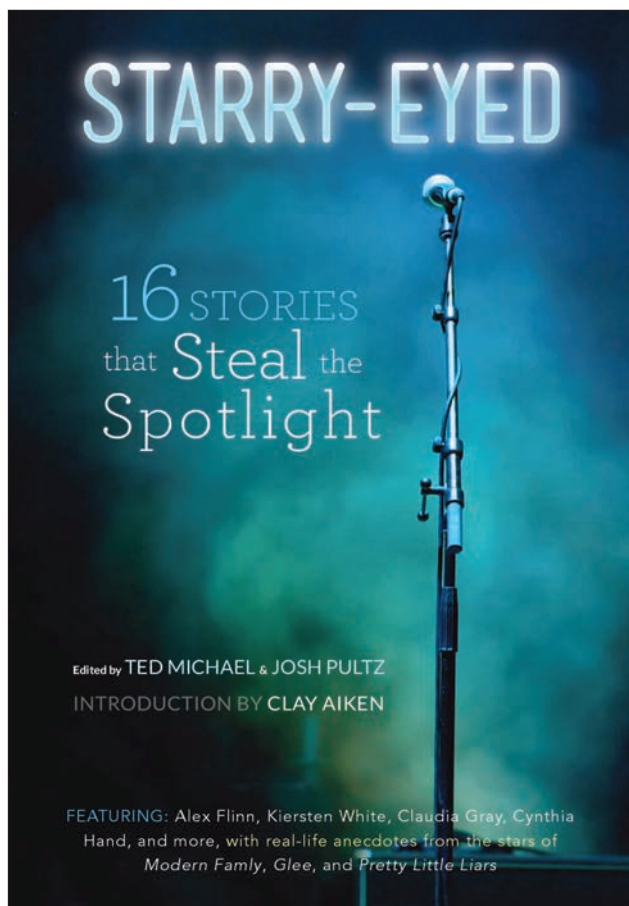
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STARRY-EYED

16 Stories that Steal the Spotlight

Edited by Ted Michael and Josh Pultz
 Introduction by Clay Aiken

No light is as unforgiving as the spotlight, but to be in it while being a teenager is just plain brutal.

In this collection of fictional short stories, sixteen YA authors delve into the struggles, hopes, failures, and triumphs of young aspiring singers, dancers, actors, actresses, and performers. While these characters may feel out of place during their everyday lives, they are able to find a home onstage and in rehearsals.

Woven throughout the anthology are personal anecdotes from several of today's most celebrated performers of stage, screen, and television, which provide inspiration and insight into making a distinct mark on the world.

Whether hilarious or romantic or devastating or suspenseful, these diverse coming-of-age stories are perfect for anyone who is reaching for the stars.



Ted Michael is a Presidential Scholar in the Arts and a graduate of Columbia University and The Juilliard School. He is the author of *So You Wanna Be a Superstar?: The Ultimate Audition Guide*, a YALSA Popular Paperback for Young Adults, *The Diamonds*, and *Crash Test Love*. He lives in Manhattan's Upper

West Side, where he is surrounded by many Playbills and even more books. Visit him online at tedmichaelbooks.com and via Twitter [@tedmichaelbooks](https://twitter.com/tedmichaelbooks).



Josh Pultz is the senior agent at DGRW Talent, and his clients include stars of television, screen, and stage. He regularly appears as a guest and speaker for such venues as the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, The School for Film and Television, Actors Connection, and One on One Studios. He currently

lives in Manhattan, and you can follow him on Twitter [@joshpultz](https://twitter.com/joshpultz).



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DARE ME

by Eric Devine

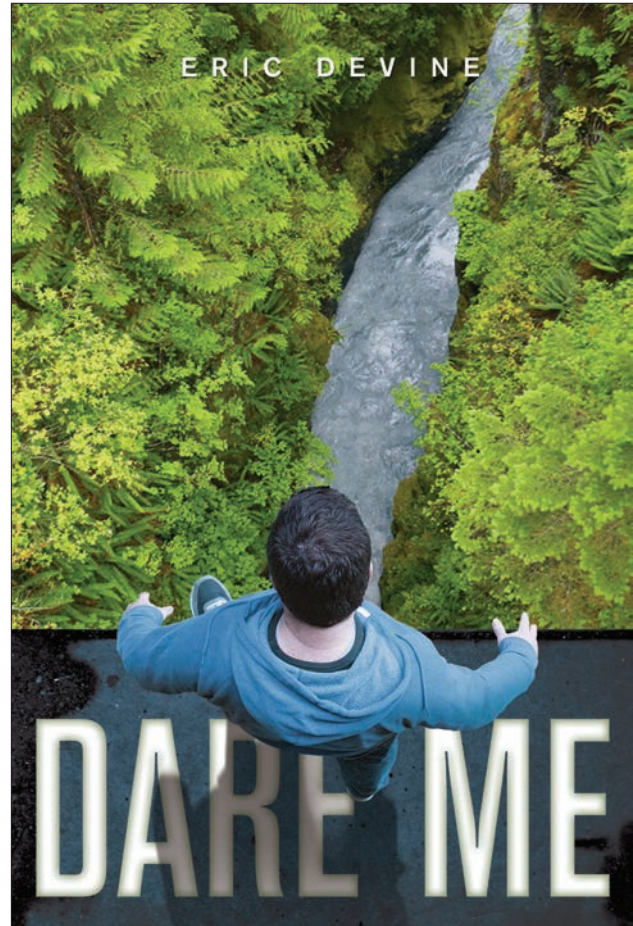
When Ben Candido and his friends, Ricky and John, decide to post a YouTube video of themselves surfing on top of a car, they finally feel like the *somebodies* they are meant to be instead of the social nobodies that they are.

Overnight, the video becomes the talk of the school, and the boys are sure that their self-appointed senior year of dares will live in infamy. Every dare brings an increased risk of bodily harm, but Ben cannot deny the thrill and sense of swagger that come with it. The stakes become even more complex when a mysterious donor bankrolls their dares in exchange for a cut in the online revenue the videos generate. But at what point do the risk and the reward come at too high of a price?

With his commitment to telling it exactly like it is, author Eric Devine explores the extremes of standing out from the crowd and the costs of doing so, the nuances of our social media-driven culture, and, most importantly, what it takes to stay true to one's self in the face of relentless pressure.



Eric Devine is a writer, high-school English teacher, and educational consultant. He is the author of *Tap Out*, a YALSA Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Readers, and *This Side of Normal*, and lives in Waterford, NY with his family. He can be found online at ericdevine.org and via Twitter [@eric_devine](https://twitter.com/eric_devine).



*“There is no doubt that one of us will die.
I’m not hoping for it, just considering the possibility.”*



ALSO AVAILABLE:

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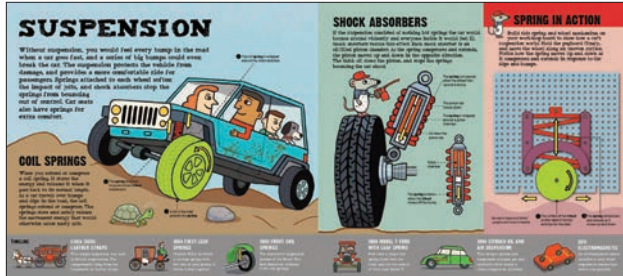
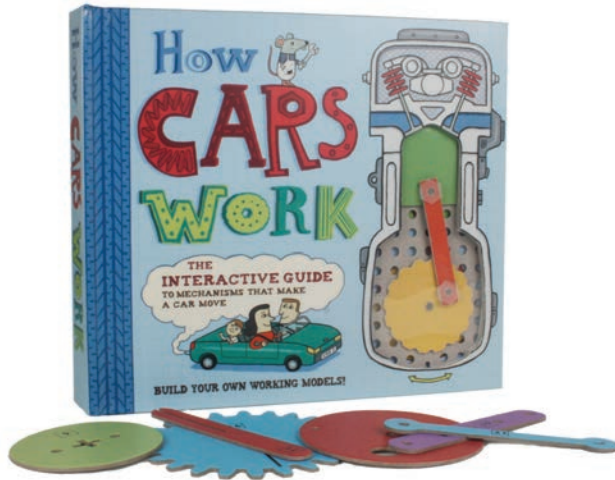
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This follow-up to *How Machines Work* is hands-on and engaging, certain to inspire the DIY spirit in every child!

Nick Arnold is the bestselling author of *How Machines Work* and the Horrible Science series, which has been awarded Britain's Aventis Prize for Science Books. He also works as a professional historian and located an ancient battlefield that had been lost for one thousand years. He lives in Devon, England, and you can visit him online at nickarnold-website.com.

Allan Sanders is the illustrator of *How Machines Work* and internationally renowned for his powerful, quirky illustrations, which have appeared in such publications as *The Economist*, *The Guardian*, *New Scientist*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. His interactive and animation work is featured in exhibitions at the London Science Museum. He lives in Brighton, England, and you can visit him online at looplant.net.

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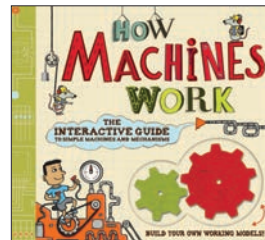
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