



flyaway
books

— 2024 —

books to
help children soar

www.flyawaybooks.com

Our Story

About Flyaway Books



fly away . . . 

The phrase conjures up a sense of freedom, imagination, adventure. That's why we chose the name Flyaway Books. We hope those who read our picture books feel as if they are soaring high, exploring new lands, seeing the world from a new perspective.

Flyaway Books embraces diversity, inclusivity, compassion, care for each other, and care for our world. Many of our books explore social justice and other contemporary issues. Some retell familiar religious stories in new ways, while others will carry universal themes appropriate for those from any, or no, religious background.

Many of our books can be found in libraries, schools, and general trade bookstores, while some are suited for progressive faith communities. Although Flyaway Books is young, the imprint is affiliated with Westminster John Knox Press (WJK), a publisher with more than 175 years of history.

Follow us on social media or visit our website to learn more about our program.



FlyawayBooks



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The Dress in the Window

Robert Tregoning

Illustrated by Pippa Curnick

GROWING UP
& EMOTIONS

That dress! It shimmers, so radiant and red. As the boy stares at it, full of wonder, he has just one wish: to put on that dress and to swirl and to swish. He'll do anything to earn enough to buy it from the secondhand shop, but he'll have to hurry. There's just one red dress in the window!

This playful and imaginative story of self-expression brims with the infectious joy that comes when a child's individuality is met with wholehearted support and love.



"Sweet and uplifting."
—Kirkus Reviews

Robert Tregoning

performed in London's renowned West End theaters before he began writing children's books. Robert writes the stories he wishes he'd read as a child, hoping to provide a voice of recognition, validation, and kindness. He lives in the United Kingdom.

www.roberttregoning.com

Pippa Curnick is the author and illustrator of numerous children's books. When Pippa isn't painting or drawing, she enjoys walking in the woods near Leicestershire, United Kingdom, where she lives with her family. www.pippacurnick.com

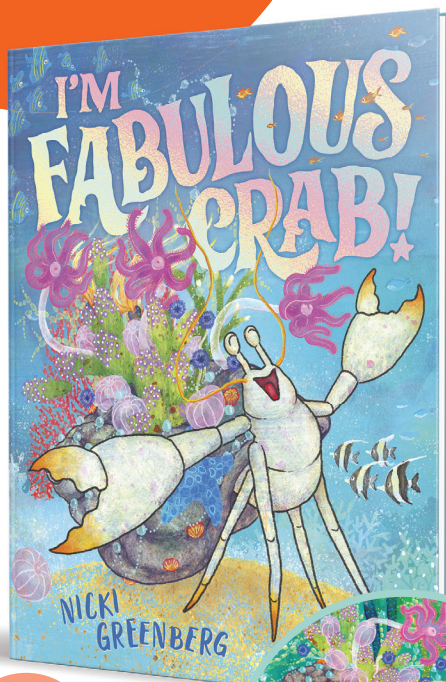


March 2024 • Jacketed hardback • \$19.00 • 9781947888463 • 32 pages
9" x 10.75" • Ages 3-7 • Rights: U. S. and Canada • Shelving: Growing Up & Emotions

GROWING UP
& EMOTIONS

I'm Fabulous Crab

Written and Illustrated by Nicki Greenberg



Henry is tired of life on the dim ocean floor. He wants glamour! He wants bling! Even when his new dazzle leads to the unexpected, he still wants to be . . . *Fabulous Crab!*

I'm Fabulous Crab is a sparkling story about joyfully wearing your true colors—and perhaps a touch of glitter!

“Bright colors and multiple techniques populate the illustrations of this rhyming picture book about embracing your true colors.”

—Foreword Reviews



Nicki Greenberg's

many works for children include fiction, nonfiction, and picture books. Her favorite activity is making books, but Nicki also loves to roller skate and crochet bizarre sea creatures.

www.nickigreenberg.com



A reading guide with discussion questions based on the book and activities to help children explore its themes is available at flyawaybooks.com/resources.

September 2023 • Jacketed hardback • \$19.00 • 9781947888432 • 40 pages
8.5" x 11" • Ages 3-7 • Rights: U. S. and Canada • Shelving: Growing Up & Emotions

What the Crow Saw Below

Robert Tregoning

Illustrated by Greg Stobbs

GROWING UP
& EMOTIONS

Every day, the elder crows warn of dangers far below their branches. At first, the littlest crow joins their warbling, warning wails. But soon she begins to wonder: What's really going on below the treetops? *Is everything dangerous?* What might happen if she looks up?

With rollicking rhyme and vibrant illustrations, *What the Crow Saw Below* invites readers to look beyond the boundaries of one's own world, balancing a bit of caution with a sense of adventure and discovery.



Robert Tregoning is the author of *Out of the Blue* and *The Dress in the Window*. Robert performed in London's renowned West End theaters before he began writing children's books. Robert writes the stories he wishes he'd read as a child, hoping to provide a voice of recognition, validation, and kindness. www.roberttregoning.com

Greg Stobbs is an artist and illustrator whose work is influenced by comics, cartoons, street art, and children's art. Greg combines traditional and digital techniques to create works that are personal and memorable. www.squirlart.org

A discussion and activity guide that explores the story's themes and provides conversation starters and activities will be available at flyawaybooks.com/resources in August 2024.



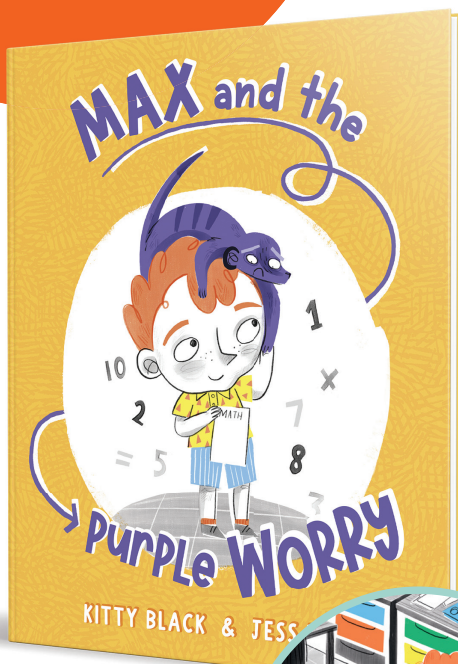
September 2024 • Jacketed hardback • \$19.00 • 9781947888494 • 32 pages
9" x 10.625" • Ages 3-7 • Rights: U. S. and Canada • Shelving: Growing Up & Emotions

GROWING UP
& EMOTIONS

Max and the Purple Worry

Kitty Black

Illustrated by Jess Rose



When Max has a hard time starting his math, he's joined by someone new: **Worry**. Worry is no help. Worry doesn't listen. Max begins to think that Worry will never leave! Will Max ever be able to escape Worry?

With humor and sensitivity, *Max and the Purple Worry* delves into the quest for perfection, the anxiety it creates, and the inherent value in simply offering our best.

The book includes an author's note about how to support children who are struggling with worry and anxiety.



Kitty Black

studied psychology and education prior to becoming an author of children's books. Her research, including many hours talking with children, reinforced that stories are invaluable for helping process emotions. www.kittyblackauthor.com

Jess Rose is an illustrator and designer whose childhood love for drawing gradually grew into a full-time career. www.jessroseillustration.com



A discussion and activity guide that explores the story's themes and provides conversation starters and activities to help children express their feelings is available at flyawaybooks.com/resources.

September 2023 • Jacketed hardback • \$19.00 • 9781947888425 • 40 pages
8.5" x 10.25" • Ages 3-7 • Rights: U. S. and Canada • Shelving: Growing Up & Emotions

Saving Delicia

A Story about Small Seeds and Big Dreams

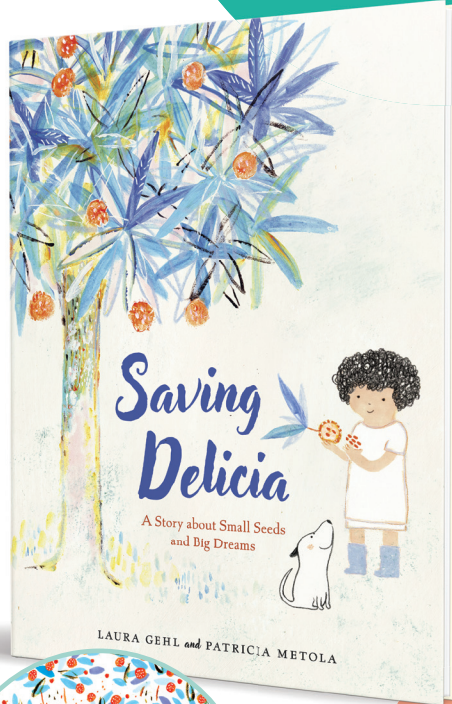
Written by Laura Gehl

Illustrated by Patricia Metola

Kari's favorite parts of summer are eating juicy fruit from the delicia tree and listening to stories from Old Otis. But now the last remaining delicia is in danger. What if this beloved tree dies out? *Is there anything one girl can do?*

With inspiration, information, and a pocketful of seeds, Kari sets out to craft a surprise for Otis—and for the future.

This tender story emphasizes that small steps can have a big impact when one looks beyond the present. An author's note about seed banks around the world is included.



"This uplifting, economically told tale is about hope and how one generation inspires another; it reassuringly reminds children that they can improve the world."

—Kirkus Reviews

Laura Gehl is the author of *Grandpa's Window* and *Apple and Magnolia* as well as many other popular and acclaimed children's books. She lives in Chevy Chase, Maryland. www.lauragehl.com

Patricia Metola is the illustrator of more than twenty books in Europe and the United States. She lives in Madrid, Spain. www.patriciametola.blogspot.com



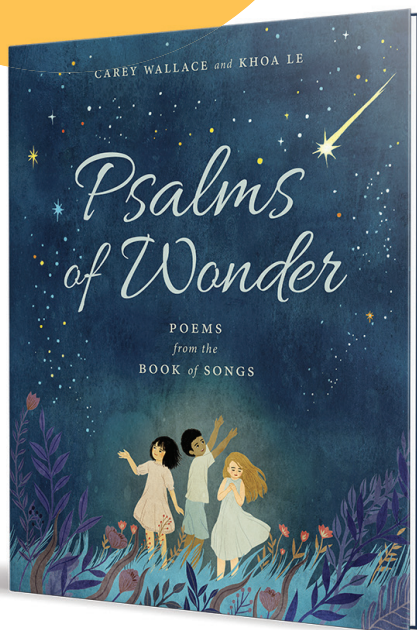
Psalms of Wonder

Poems from the Book of Songs

Carey Wallace

Illustrated by Khoa Le

A psalm is a song we sing to God.



These inviting poems and gorgeous illustrations are inspired by the book of Psalms, echoing all its wonder and courage, comfort and joy, protection and love. *Psalms of Wonder* offers children an introduction to the psalms, and reveals to readers who already know and love the Psalms a refreshing new perspective while holding true to respected biblical translations. Perfect for savoring and sharing, this luminous collection will resonate deep in the hearts of God's children.

"Le's gorgeous, vibrantly colored paintings aptly accompany the various themes and are a graceful addition to the book."

—*School Library Journal*



Carey Wallace is a writer of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, including *Stories of the Saints*. She is the founder of several organizations that offer encouragement and connection for artists of all kinds. www.careywallace.com

Khoa Le is the illustrator of a number of acclaimed books for children, and her paintings have been honored and exhibited across Asia. www.khoaleartwork.com

Psalms of Wonder is perfect for using both at home and in group settings of all ages. Free digital resources are available at flyawaybooks.com/resources.

My Elephant Is Blue

A Book about Big, Heavy Feelings
Melinda Szymanik
Illustrated by Vasanti Unka

RECENTLY
RELEASED

What will help when the blues leave you feeling as though you're crushed beneath an **elephant**? Will a smile do the trick? Can anyone—or anything—make the elephant go away?

Warm, empathetic, hopeful, and often funny, *My Elephant Is Blue* is an inviting exploration of the experience of living under the weight of sadness.

"The illustrations are brilliant in showing the progression of the child's moods by having the landscape change from gray winter to multicolored spring."
—Booklist

"Describing depression is difficult for everyone, so offering concrete vocabulary at a young age is critical, and this text does it well. Readers struggling to express themselves will feel seen and comforted."
—Kirkus Reviews

Melinda Szymanik is an author of picture books, short stories, and novels for children and young adults.

Vasanti Unka is an award-winning writer, designer, and illustrator noted for her riotously colorful and inventive artwork.

A reading and discussion guide is available at flyawaybooks.com/resources.



RECENTLY
RELEASED

Grandpa's Window

Laura Gehl

Illustrated by Udayana Lugo



Every window at the hospital faces dull, gray buildings—except the one in Grandpa's room. **Grandpa can see the ocean every day!** When Daria visits, she and Grandpa look out at the beach, hoping they will build sandcastles and fly kites together again. This touching exploration of a child's experience of loss offers an unexpected ending, encouraging creativity and self-expression in the midst of grief.

The book includes a note for adults by a child and family psychotherapist about how to support children who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

"This powerful picture book shows children that they can feel both heartbreak and ongoing love simultaneously. . . . A touching window into a child's mourning process."

—Kirkus Reviews

Laura Gehl's nearly two dozen books for children have received many accolades and been included on numerous best-of-the-year lists.

Udayana Lugo is a self-taught illustrator who creates her art with a variety of traditional media.

A discussion and activity guide for children is available at flyawaybooks.com/resources.

Jacketed hardback • 9781947888401 • \$19.00 • Ages 3-7

One Thursday Afternoon

Written and Illustrated by Barbara DiLorenzo

RECENTLY
RELEASED

When Granddad picks Ava up from school one Thursday afternoon, she's quiet. She doesn't want to talk about the lockdown drill that has stirred up her worries. **How can she be so afraid in a place that has always felt so safe?**

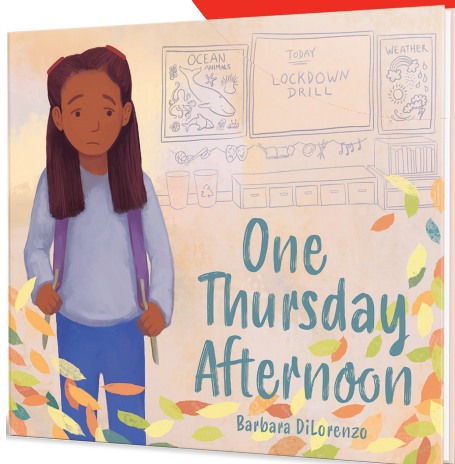
With tender insight, *One Thursday Afternoon* sheds light on how an unpredictable world can make a child feel, reminding us that big fears can become smaller when we take time together to look, listen, and create. An author's note about how adults can help children overcome fear is included.

"Adults may learn a trick or two from Granddad's model of patience, acceptance, communication, and support, while sensitive children will see they are not alone and that it's OK to feel upset. . . . A sweet, specific, and straightforward tale of dealing with good and bad in the world."

—Kirkus Reviews

Barbara DiLorenzo has written and illustrated many books and has taught at the Arts Council of Princeton and the New York Institute of Art + Design.

A discussion and activity guide for children and a guide for educators are available at flyawaybooks.com/resources.



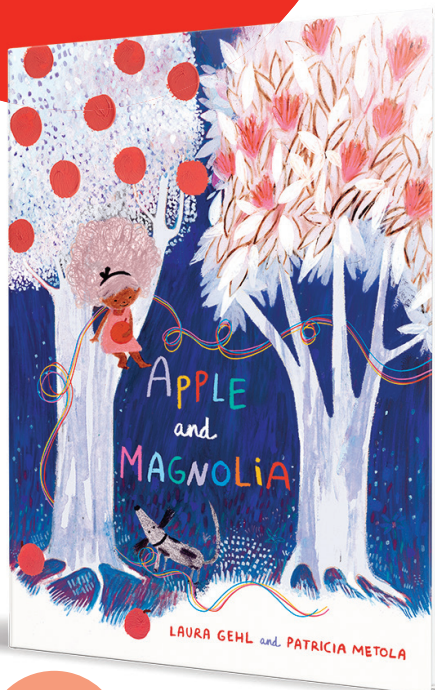
Jacketed hardback • \$18.00 • 9781947888371 • Ages 3-7

RECENTLY
RELEASED

Apple and Magnolia

Laura Gehl

Illustrated by Patricia Metola



Britta visits her two favorite trees, Apple and Magnolia, every day. Though she can't explain it, she's sure they are **best friends**! Then one day, Magnolia's branches start to droop. Is there anything Britta—or Apple—can do to help?

Apple and Magnolia unveils the wondrous bonds between all living things. The book includes an author's note offering facts about how trees communicate with one another.

Kirkus Best Books of 2022 Selection

★ "Emotive, whimsical illustrations reminiscent of children's drawings enliven this story about the power of friendship."

—*Foreword Reviews*
(starred review)

★ "Britta's determination shows how strong girls can be, and it shows that we all have an impact on the natural world."

—*School Library Journal*
(starred review)

Laura Gehl's nearly two dozen books for children have received many accolades and been included on numerous best-of-the-year lists.

Patricia Metola is the illustrator of more than twenty books in Europe and the United States.

A downloadable discussion guide is available at flyawaybooks.com/resources.

Jacketed hardback • \$18.00 • 9781947888357 • Ages 3-7

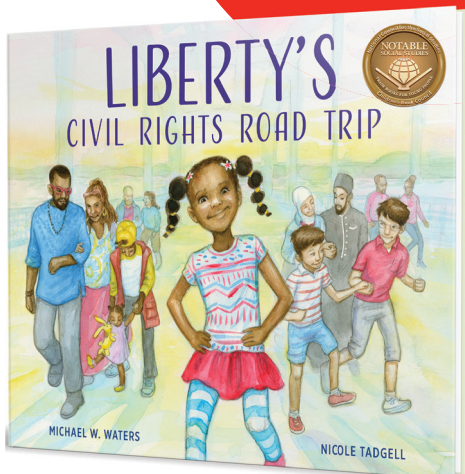
Liberty's Civil Rights Road Trip

Michael W. Waters

Illustrated by Nicole Tadgell

RECENTLY
RELEASED

Time to board the bus! Liberty, her friend Abdullah, and a diverse group of passengers, head off to their first stop: Jackson, Mississippi. As told through the innocent view of a child, *Liberty's Civil Rights Road Trip* serves as an early introduction to places, people, and events that transformed history. An author's note and more information about each stop on Liberty's trip offer ways for adults to expand the conversation with young readers.



"A unique and valuable perspective."

—Kirkus Reviews

"This introduction to historic individuals and monumental locations is both inspiring and a useful teaching tool, and will see wide use in most collections."

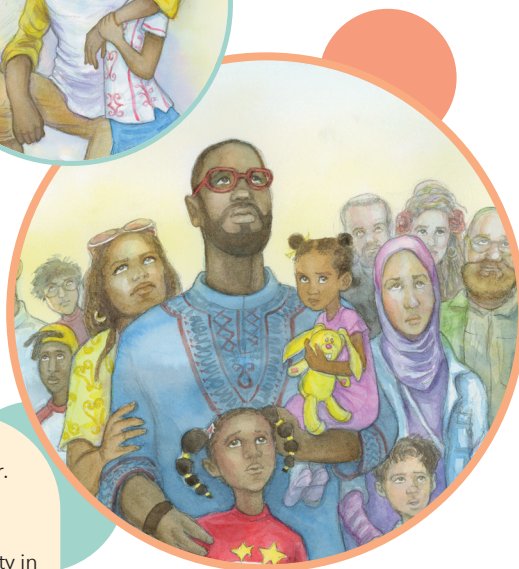
—School Library Journal

"An accessible, anecdotal introduction to pivotal civil rights events and luminaries."

—Publishers Weekly

Michael W. Waters is an award-winning author, activist, professor, and pastor.

Nicole Tadgell is the acclaimed illustrator of more than thirty picture books, a speaker and workshop leader, and an advocate for diversity in children's literature.



RECENTLY
RELEASED

The Coat

Séverine Vidal

Illustrated by Louis Thomas



Ah, the **coat**. So warm, so beautiful, so red. It's all Elise has really wanted, and she's been waiting forever. When will the coat be hers? Then, a chance encounter changes everything, revealing that the pleasure that comes from belongings (even the perfect ones!) is no match for the joy of helping others.

At turns lighthearted and poignant, *The Coat* offers a glimpse at the hardships confronting those who are experiencing homelessness, inspiring us to treat them with compassion and respect.

★ "A must for all libraries. It is not only a beautifully told story, but its message is full of heart. Children will love engaging in 'what would I do?' scenarios."

—*School Library Journal*
(starred review)

Séverine Vidal is a French author who writes for all ages, in genres ranging from picture books to novels and comics.

Louis Thomas is an illustrator and author of several books, in addition to being an illustrator for Pixar and Universal Studios.

A downloadable discussion guide is available at flyawaybooks.com/resources.

Jacketed hardback • \$18.00 • 9781947888388 • Ages 3-7



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