

Islandport Press Children's & YA Backlist Titles

Spring 2020

for rights queries:

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Represented by Amy Tompkins on behalf of Islandport Press, amy@transatlanticagency.com

BB = board book

PB = picture book

MG = middle grade

YA = young adult

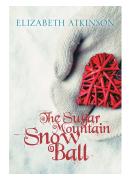
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Mud, Sand and Snow by Charlotte Agell (BB), 24 p.

Mud makes me dance in the spring / I fly up to the sky on my swing. So begins a celebration of the four seasons, as a young girl explores, with family and friends, the mud of spring, sand and wind in the summer, leaves and pumpkins in the fall, and the joys of snow in winter. Toddlers will enjoy listening to, and repeating, the easy rhyming text that invites them to use all their senses to experience the world changing around

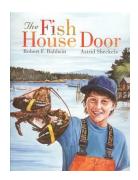
them. We feel grass tickling our toes, hear bees buzzing, and see our breath steam in the cold of winter.



The Sugar Mountain Snow Ball by Elizabeth Atkinson (MG), 224 p.

Cheerful Ruby LaRue and her shy friend Eleanor Bandaranaike couldn't be more different. Ruby has lived her whole life in the small ski town of Paris, New Hampshire. Eleanor's family comes from Sri Lanka. But these unlikely best friends share one thing: they both have BIG plans. So when a mysterious fortune teller urges them to go outside their world to unlock their dreams, they plunge down a whirlwind path to try to reach their goals.

Rights sold: Book Club in Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish (Stabenfeldt)



The Fish House Door by Robert Baldwin & Astrid Sheckels (PB), 36 p.

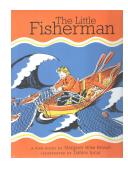
A beautifully illustrated book set in a Maine island fishing village. A summer visitor gives a young islander a new perspective and a fresh look at the people and traditions that have shaped his past and will chart his future.



Crustacean Vacation by Brian Benoit & Marty Kelley (PB), 36 p.

Where do you go when you're feeling crabby and just need a vacation? To the seaside, of course! Join a frolicsome family of curious crabs as they scuttle on land to picnic at the beach, try their luck in an arcade, and slide and glide in a water park.

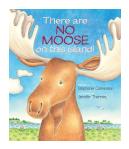
Rights sold: Korean (Awesome World)



The Little Fisherman by Margaret Wise Brown & Dahlov Ipcar (PB), 38 p.

"Once there was a great big fisherman and a little fisherman . . . They sailed boats." So begins the classic story by Margaret Wise Brown. The book follows the two fisherman through a day in their life at sea, the big fisherman with his big boat, big fish, and big sailors, and the little fisherman with his little boat, little fish, little sailors—and a big story. The first children's book illustrated by Dahlov Ipcar, *The Little Fisherman* helped establish her

distinctive style and ignited a four-decade creative run that saw her write and illustrate more than thirty children's books.



There Are No Moose on this Island by Stephanie Calmenson & Jennifer Thermes (PB), 32 p.

Jake's excited to visit an island, and he wants to see a moose. But his dad insists: there are no moose there. With graceful illustrations, Jake starts to see the moose, but Dad can't. In the end, Jake shows Dad how to truly experience the outdoors.



Lies in the Dust: A Tale of Remorse from the Salem Witch Trials by Jakob Crane & Timothy Decker (YA graphic novel), 128 p.

In Salem's dark days of 1692 and 1693, young girls pointed fingers and accused others of witchcraft, sentencing them to torture, or even death. When the cloud lifted, and the accusations were shown to be false, the girls faced little, if any, penalty. Were they sorry? No one knows. Only one girl, Ann Putnam Jr., felt moved to show remorse publicly. Fourteen years after the trials, Ann wrote a letter of apology. This is her story.



Mabel Takes the Ferry by Emily Chetkowski & Dawn Peterson (PB), 32 p.

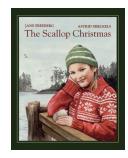
Canine sailor Mabel, a summer resident of Islesboro, Maine, took an unauthorized ferry trip aboard the Margaret Chase Smith to Lincolnville Beach. There, Mabel visited a restaurant, made a few friends, and tasted some lobster before finally returning home. Adults will enjoy the

descriptions of Penobscot Bay and the beautiful island of Islesboro, and children will giggle at Mabel's adventures.



The Old Mainer and the Sea by Jean Flahive & Mari Dieumegard (PB), 32 p.

Eben goes out fishing one day, rowing six miles from his island home towards the harbor on the mainland, hauling in cod as he goes. But a porpoise tangles his lines, fog rolls in, and an accident leads to a broken oar. Lonely, tired, and adrift, Eben is almost ready to give in to the embrace of the sea, when rescue comes in an unexpected form.



The Scallop Christmas by Jane Freeberg & Astrid Sheckels (PB), 36 p.

Times were tough in the small New England fishing village where Marcie lived. No one had any money, and work was hard to find. So the villagers rejoiced one glorious fall when an unexpected bounty of scallops filled their little bay. For young Marcie, a week of harvesting scallops also brought an unexpected adventure and a lesson about love that she would never forget.



The Door to January by Gillian French (YA), 200 p.

Ever since sixteen-year-old Natalie Payson moved away from her hometown, she's had nightmares. And not just the usual ones. These are inside her, pulling her, calling her to a door, a house, a time full of fear. So this summer, Natalie's going back home to face up to a few things: the reason she left in the first place; the boy she's trying hard not to trust; and the door in her dreams. French (*Grit, The Lies They Tell*) skillfully weaves together themes of small town bullies, unsolved murders, time travel, and the force of the spirit in this gripping paranormal thriller.



Halfway Wild by Laura Freudig & Kevin M. Barry (PB), 32 p.

On some days, there's just not a good word for the way you are feeling. If your socks are sagging and your pants are wrinkled, what do you call it? Maybe you're feeling like a turtle. Maybe you're feeling halfway wild. In this fresh and lyrical picture book, a family's feelings and moods are imagined through animal traits and behaviors as they make their way through the course of one lazy summer day.



My Cat, My Coon Cat by Sandy F. Fuller & Jeannie Brett (PB), 36 p.

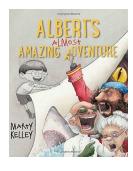
A young girl moves into a new home and slowly wins the affection of a shy cat. Beautiful illustrations enhance rhyming verses to create a delightful book for children, cat lovers, and anyone who has felt the warmth of making a new friend.



What the Wind Can Tell You by Sarah Marie A. Jette (MG), 208 p.

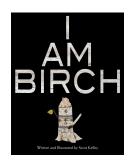
Isabelle is fascinated by wind. And this year, she's determined to win the middle school science fair with her wind machine. She's just as determined to have her brother, Julian, who has a severe form of epilepsy and uses a wheelchair, serve as her assistant. But after Julian has a grand seizure, everything changes. Isabelle is suddenly granted entry into Las Brisas, a magical world where Julian's physical limitations disappear, and one, she discovers, that he visits every night. The more Isabelle explores Las Brisas, the more possibilities she sees—for Julian, and for herself—and the more she

finds herself at odds with her parents. Debut author Sarah Marie A. Jette has told, with remarkable insight and humor, a powerful story of a family struggling to love without fear.



Albert's Almost Amazing Adventure by Marty Kelley (PB), 32 p.

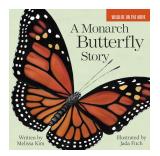
Albert's vacation was amazing—in his mind. But to his friends, his time in Maine was boring. They've got a much more creative idea of what Albert could have done on his trip. Marty Kelley tells this wonderful read-aloud story by contrasting panels of black-and-white charcoal drawings with colorful spreads of what Albert's friends imagine for his summer adventures. But Albert's trip might not have been as dull as they thought!



I Am Birch by Scott Kelley (PB), 32 p.

A birch tree is an unlikely champion and protector of the forest in this story inspired by Gluskap, the heroic and kind-hearted figure of Wabanaki legends. As rumors of coming cold and darkness spread through the woods, chaos and fear grow. In a panic to collect and store food, the animals do damage to their very homes. The birch, now only a stump, remains firmly rooted and, with the wisdom and dry humor that only a stump can possess, helps the animals put their fears to rest. Acclaimed fine art painter Scott

Kelley used his portraits of Wabanaki tribal elders as a springboard for the extraordinary paintings that make this a children's book like no other.



A Monarch Butterfly Story by Melissa Kim & Jada Fitch (BB), 24 p.

A young boy learns about threats to Monarch Butterflies and inspires his class and community to learn about the butterfly's life cycle and to plant a butterfly friendly garden, offering the iconic insects safe places to lay eggs and native plants full of nectar to fuel their long migration. Through a simple narrative with beautiful illustrations, young readers will learn about the Monarch Butterfly, its cycle from egg to caterpillar to butterfly, threats to its survival, and respectful human interaction to help

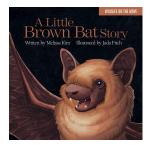
conserve this increasingly threatened species. This is the fourth title in the Wildlife on the Move series, published in partnership with Maine Audubon.



A Blanding's Turtle Story by Melissa Kim & Jada Fitch (BB), 24 p.

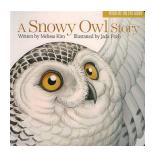
A Blanding's Turtle ventures across streams, over roads, and through wetlands to find food and a safe place to make a nest, in the third book of the Wildlife on the Move series. A Blanding's Turtle Story follows one turtle through her seasonal cycle of hibernating, foraging, and nesting, with some unexpected challenges—and help— along the way. Through a simple narrative with beautiful illustrations, young readers will learn about the Blanding's Turtle, its behaviors and habitat, threats to its survival, and

how respectful human interaction can help protect this rare endangered species.



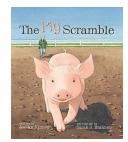
A Little Brown Bat Story by Melissa Kim & Jada Fitch (BB), 24 p.

Inspired by true stories, A Little Brown Bat Story follows one bat through his daily ritual of eating and sleeping, and his annual migration to a safe spot to hibernate in winter. Through a simple narrative with beautiful illustrations, young readers will learn about Little Brown Bat behavior and habitat, threats to the bats' survival, and how respectful human interaction can help conserve this important and threatened species.



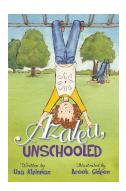
A Snowy Owl Story by Melissa Kim & Jada Fitch (BB), 24 p.

2016 Sigurd Olson Nature Writing Award, Children's Notable Book 12 Best Bird Books of 2015, National Audubon Based on a true story, A Snowy Owl Story describes, through the adventures of one particular owl, the recent irruption of Snowy Owls all across the United States. Through simple narrative and beautiful illustrations, youngsters will learn about migration, adaptation, and respectful human interaction with nature.



The Pig Scramble by Jessica Kinney and Sarah S. Brannen (PB), 36 p.

Clarence feels like he's not big enough and not helpful enough, especially compared to his two big brothers. He just can't seem to find his place on the family farm. But not every little boy has an uncle like Clarence's Uncle Leon. And when it comes time for the annual county fair, it's Uncle Leon who gives Clarence the advice and self-confidence he needs to turn things around.



Azalea, Unschooled by Liz Kleinman, with illustrations by Brook Gideon (MG), 140 p.

Azalea's sick of moving. But now, someone is threatening her father's business. Can Azalea use her freedom as an unschooler to save the day? In Kleinman's fresh, funny debut, she deftly explores the unschooling movement and the challenges of moving, making friends, and finding room for differences within a family.

Rights sold: Korean (Arte Publishing Co)



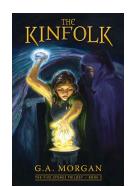
The Fog of Forgetting by G.A. Morgan, Book 1, Five Stones Trilogy (MG), 316 p.

One summer, five children find themselves engulfed in a curtain of dense, powerful fog that transports them from the rocky Maine coast to the mysterious island of Ayda. They soon find themselves at the center of a centuries-old battle between Dankar, the ruler of Exor, and three siblings that rule the other realms of Ayda. At stake are the four stones of power and the elusive Fifth Stone that binds them all



Chantarelle by G.A. Morgan, Book 2, Five Stones Trilogy (MG), 316 p.

Determined to fulfill his promise to find the unifying Fifth Stone, Captain Nate returns to the island of Ayda, where one realm is burning and two others are under siege from Dankar's dark forces of Exor. Meanwhile, Knox and Evelyn must trust a mysterious guide to help them find a way back, though each has their own personal struggle to overcome. The children must decide if they can put their own needs—and fears—aside to save their friends and family.



The Kinfolk by G.A. Morgan, Book 3, Five Stones Trilogy (MG), 300 p.

In the dramatic conclusion of The Five Stones Trilogy, Chase, Evelyn, and Knox must gather together disparate forces to save not just Ayda but their own world. The three young people have returned through the fog to fulfill their promise to the Keepers on the island of Ayda, whose four realms are in turmoil. But in Exor, Dankar's evil forces continue to grow as he corrupts and coerces all in his domain, with the final intent of gaining total control of Ayda so he may take his battle to the world beyond the fog—our world. Chase, Evelyn, and Knox—each one struggling in a different realm—are on

a desperate quest to learn more about their own powers and halt what seems to be the inevitable destruction of Ayda. The dramatic reappearance of Chantarelle and two mysterious guests bring answers long sought, but not before everyone on Ayda has been tested to the utmost of their abilities.



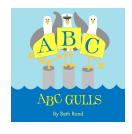
Merry Moosey Christmas by Lynn Plourde & Russ Cox (PB), 32 p.

This Christmas Eve, Rudolph just wants to enjoy the holiday without having to work. So he convinces Santa to accept a substitute. They find an eager and resourceful moose for the job, but on Christmas Eve, Rudolph worries: Was the moose's training good enough?



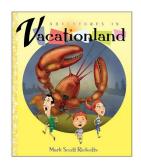
123 Gulls by Beth Rand (PB), 32 p.

123 Gulls offers a fresh take on a counting book, as intrepid seagulls skate, ski, and collect items, counting down from ten mittens to one snowy surprise. The gulls also experience 50 and 100, until one moon puts them to sleep in the end. Little ones can start by learning numbers while early counters will have fun finding all the items.



ABC Gulls by Beth Rand (PB), 32 p.

ABC Gulls offers a playful look at the alphabet with a coastal twist. A cast of seagulls chronicles scenes from everyday island life. Little ones can start by learning letters and move up to sounding out individual words and full sentences.



Adventures in Vacationland by Mark Scott Ricketts (PB), 40 p.

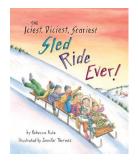
Young Joe Livingston has a very active imagination! And when his favorite Aunt goes missing, he and his family journey through the wilds of Maine to rescue her from the clutches of Cracker—The Beast of Briney Bay!



Seashells: Treasures from the Northeast Coast by Joanne Roach-Evans (PB), 32 p.

As any visitor to the beach knows, all sorts of treasures can be found if you know how and where to look. This beautifully illustrated pocket guide helps young beachcombers find, and identify, shells of animals commonly found on Northeast shores in the USA. Writing specifically with the Northeast in mind,

author and artist Joanne Roach-Evans describes clams, limpets, whelks, mussels, oysters, periwinkles, and more, in gentle prose with just the right amount of scientific information to satisfy the budding explorer.



The Iciest, Diciest, Scariest Sled Ride Ever! by Rebecca Rule & Jennifer Thermes (PB), 36 p.

On a cold winter day when "the world was ice and we were skaters without skates," friends set out on an adventure that soars to epic proportions when Grampa Bud lets them use his old runner sled to tackle the iciest, diciest, scariest hill ever!

Rights sold: Korean (Neungyule)



Hold This! By Carolyn Cory Scoppettone & Priscilla Alpaugh (PB), 32 p.

A girl and her father go for a walk, experiencing all the sights, sounds, smells, and feels of the woods. With every step and stumble, Mika finds both the wonders and treasures of nature, and the ability to pick herself up after a fall. But the real discovery for both daughter and parent comes at the end, when they both realize that the truest treasure is a hand to hold.



Nic and Nellie, by Astrid Sheckels (PB), 36 p.

Nic and Nellie is a gorgeously illustrated, heartwarming story of a girl and her beloved dog, Nellie, who slowly learn that new places really aren't so scary, and that often friends can be found around every corner, even in old rowboats, tidal ponds, and stinky mudflats.

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese (Oriental Babies & Kids Ltd)



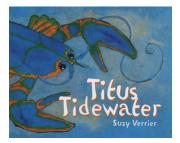
The Lake Where Loon Lives, by Brenda Reeves Sturgis & Brooke Carlton (PB), 32 p.

There's a lake. With a loon. Two chicks. Sounds peaceful, right? Guess again! *The Lake Where Loon Lives* starts quietly, but the cumulative story builds, one line at a time, to a wacky and wonderful and splashy crescendo, as the loons are joined by a playful fly, a slippery fish, and a curious boy on the dock.



Mercy, by Sarah L. Thomson (YA), 172 p.

Haley is a teenager struggling to cope with a new stepmom, a baby brother, and a family illness. When she digs into her family history, she uncovers a ghostly past, forcing her to overcome doubts and confront a vampire in order to save herself and her family.



Titus Tidewater, by Suzy Verrier (PB), 38 p.

For blue lobster Titus Tidewater, summer means exciting happenings near the shoreline, but also lurking dangers. Titus explores the ocean floor, but soon finds himself caught in a trap. He is taken away from his familiar surroundings and to a strange new world on land, before he is ultimately rescued by two children.



Uncertain Glory by Lea Wait (YA), 210 p.

When the Civil War breaks out, budding newspaperman Joe Wood must put his dreams on hold to help those around him find balance between patriotism and loyalty, truth and showmanship, family and country, in this historical fiction title from noted children's author Lea Wait.



Mystery on Pine Lake by Tamra Wight with illustrations by Carl DiRocco (MG), 152 p.

Cooper thought living at a campground would be cool. But ever since his parents bought the lakeside campground, he's had way more chores and way less time for his favorite hobby: nature watching. And then, trouble comes to Pine Lake, where a family of loons is trying to build a nest. Someone is out to harm the loons. Is it the local bully? The irritable camper? Or the publicity seeking reporter? It's up to Cooper and Packrat to figure out who the culprit is and how to stop them—before it's too late.

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese (Beijing Publishing House)



Mystery of the Eagle's Nest by Tamra Wight with illustrations by Carl DiRocco (MG), 175 p.

When Cooper and Packrat find their geocache box full of illegal eagle parts, they know their lazy summer is over. Someone wants those valuable parts back. And if they can't get the parts back, they'll settle for holding one of the rare Pine Lake eaglets hostage instead. Cooper, Packrat, and Roy must elude two goons, tolerate an annoying teenager, keep tabs on a shady new camper, and stake out the eagle's nest—all without getting grounded.

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese (Beijing Publishing House)



Mystery of the Missing Fox by Tamra Wight with illustrations by Carl DiRocco (MG), 208 p.

The stakes have never been higher for Cooper Wilder. When an accident puts Cooper's dad in the hospital, Cooper must shoulder some new responsibilities. But he's distracted. First, he and his friends find a fox caught in an illegal trap on the campground's land. Then, kits start to go missing from the fox den. Who would want to catch foxes? And why? Cooper, Packrat, and Roy must protect the den, find the kits, and rule out Summer, the new girl who lives across the lake, as a suspect. Juggling new campground duties, feeling guilty over his father's accident, and desperate to

help the fox kits, Cooper must make some tough decisions about who—and what—should come first.

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese (Beijing Publishing House)



Mystery of the Bear Cub by Tamra Wight with illustrations by Carl DiRocco (MG), 216 p.

The boys are down in the dumps—literally! Someone is dumping trash on the Wilder Family Campground's property. It's bad for the campground, and bad for the wildlife there, too. When Cooper, Packrat, and Roy find a fox in the woods with its head stuck in a jar, they know it's time to investigate. But when the boys start digging, they stumble headlong into the path of a garbage truck and a black bear looking for its cub.