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Illustration © 2024 by Carlianne Tipsey from *Even Yetis Get Colds*



Even Yetis Get Colds

Carlianne Tipsey

Summary

Getting a cold is never fun, but a friend by your side can be just what the doctor ordered. An adorable, gentle, joy-filled picture book series launch for fans of *Not Quite Narwhal* and *Dear Dragon*.

Having a yeti as a best friend is, well, the best! There's always laughter and adventure, and you're guaranteed to have the best seat in the house.

Except . . . for one big problem. Every year, Yeti gets a cold. And when he does, he turns into a total grump.

So this year, his girl is going to be ready. She's armed with tissues and blankets and cocoa. But finding a cure is a lot harder than it sounds.

And sometimes all you need is a friend.

Utterly endearing, *Even Yetis Get Colds* introduces a talented new voice, and is a perfect cozy pick through sniffles and giggles and for any curling-up day.

Contributor Bio

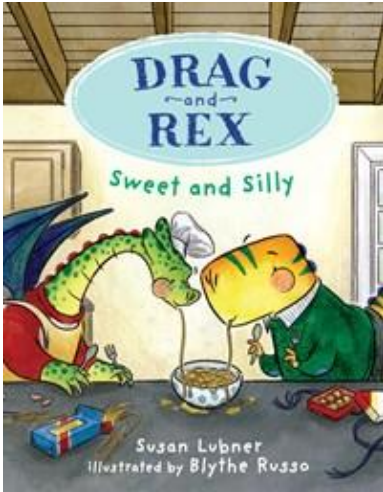
Carlianne Tipsey is an award-winning children's book illustrator and mentor, and the author-illustrator of *How to Draw Adorable*. She's worked for Disney Interactive and KiwiCo, and for the last ten years has mentored her colleagues in illustration and taught children complex STEM concepts with cute and simple illustrations. She's known on Instagram and YouTube for her simple cute art tips to help anyone learn how to draw. She lives in Florida.

Author Residence: Clearwater, FL

Author Hometown: Sacramento, CA

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Drag and Rex 2: Sweet and Silly

Susan Lubner, Blythe Russo

Summary

Best friends Drag and Rex are back to cook up oodles more fun in the second book in a charming buddy series that reads like a modern FROG AND TOAD.

Drag is a devoted, daring, and dreamy dragon. Rex is a precise, practical, and patient T. Rex. And together, they always have tons of fun.

Whether it's coming up with the perfect Valentine's Day present, making the tricky decision of what to cook for a delicious dinner, or helping remember that really important thing that's just out of reach, as a team, they can face down any challenge.

But there's one thing they'll never forget: how great it is to have a friend you can count on.

Sweet and Silly, the second book in the Drag and Rex series, features three stories told in short chapters, accompanied by bright, joy-filled full color illustrations, allowing developing readers to gain confidence and a sense of accomplishment as they giggle along with the silly antics of their favorite new friends.

Series Overview: A dragon and T-rex who are best friends explore the joys and challenges of adventures big and small in this young chapter book series told in short, charming stories.

Contributor Bio

Susan Lubner is the author of the middle grade novels *Lizzy and the Good Luck Girl* and *The Upside of Ordinary*, as well as three picture books. *Her Noises at Night*, co-authored with Beth Glass, was featured on the Today Show as a "Best Book for Young Children."

She grew up in Bangor, Maine, and currently lives in Massachusetts.

Author Residence: Wellesley, Massachusetts

Author Hometown: Bangor, Maine

Blythe Russo is an author-illustrator currently living just outside Cincinnati, Ohio. Her books include *Sloth Sleeps Over*, *Posie the Pika* by Paige Braddock, *A Flood of Kindness* by Ellen Leventhal, and *One More Wheel* by Colleen AF Venable. She holds a masters in illustration from the Savannah College of Art and Design and is an active member of SCBWI.

When she's not drawing, you can find her sewing, building puppets, or in the kitchen on a never-ending quest for the perfect chocolate chip cookie recipe.

Illustrator Residence: Loveland, OH

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The Winterton Deception 2: Fault Lines

Janet Sumner Johnson

Summary

A kidnapping, a clue hunt, lots of family tension, and a literary find for the ages weave together in the thrilling second book of the Winterton Deception. Perfect for fans of *Knives Out*, *The Inheritance Games*, and *The Westing Game*.

After the incredible events of the last official Winterton Bee, Hope and Gordon Smith have discovered that having an extended family isn't so bad . . . and maybe their famous relatives' lives aren't so charmed. But Hope is still hiding a secret, and it's a big one.

When Elizabeth Springer goes missing just before the Winterton's big Thanksgiving celebration—their first reunion since the spelling bee—Hope knows it's time to come clean. Her secret may be the only thing that can save Ms. Springer. But none of the Winterton clan want to hear it. Worse, they accuse Hope of making up the whole thing as an attention-grab.

Poised to give up on her new-found family, Hope gets a cryptic coded letter with instructions on how to find James Winterton—her long-estranged grandfather. Whatsmore, the letter hints that the Wintertons had more secrets than just a hidden treasure. Now Hope and Gordon face the impossible task of convincing their family to follow a shifty clue to find the man they want to see least, in order to save the woman who's been lying to them for years.

With even more family intrigue and peppered with delicious literary what-ifs, the second installment in the middle grade The Winterton Deception series delivers another twisty, electric puzzle mystery young sleuths will eagerly devour.

Contributor Bio

Janet Sumner Johnson is the author of middle grade novels and picture books. Her *Help Wanted: Must Love Books*, was the winner of the 2021 CLEL Bell Picture Book Award and was nominated for the Colorado and Washington Children's Choice Book Awards. She lives in northern Utah with her husband, three kids, and a dog. When she isn't writing, she loves eating cookies, playing the piano, and singing along with the radio at the top of her lungs. As a kid, Janet dreamed of winning her school spelling bee. Alas, those dreams were dashed when she added a third *c* to the word *accident*. You can learn more about her and her books at janetsumnerjohnson.com.

Author Residence: North Logan, UT

Author Hometown: Santa Rosa, CA

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Plotting the Stars 3: Ashgarden

Michelle A. Barry

Summary

Cast into a dangerous new world and separated from her friends, Myra uncovers secrets and lies the Governing Council has been cultivating for centuries. The third book in the searing STEAM-inspired Plotting the Stars middle grade series perfect for fans of *The City of Ember* and *Divergent*.

Out of the ashes, change will grow.

Thrown on a ship on a one-way voyage to uninhabitable Earth, Myra, Hannah, and Bernard believe they'll never see their home or the people they care about again. After crash landing, they're attacked, sedated, and dragged away . . . by people? There are still *people* on Earth? Unbeknownst to just about everyone in the galaxy, the Old World is inhabited by Botans and many generations of their offspring. And that means maybe Canter's mother and Hannah's sister might be there, too.

Back on Venus, Canter and Lila have an insider spying on MFI's operations and are biding their time, waiting for the right moment to expose Melfin's treachery before he risks more than just the Settlement food supply.

But there's more at stake than revealing the continued existence of the Botans and freeing the Reps. Other long-buried Old World secrets. Secrets that were buried for a very good reason. . . .

Will Myra and her friends kindle and cultivate a new future from the ruins of the old, or have they ignited an inferno that will destroy all they hold dear?

The third book in the Plotting the Stars series, *Ashgarden* burns with determination, exploring the devastating possibilities of climate change and the power of the young voices fighting for something better.

Contributor Bio

Michelle A. Barry is the author of *Moongarden* and *Seagarden*, the first two books in the Plotting the Stars series. Born and raised in Springfield, Massachusetts, she now resides in Connecticut with her husband and their two children. Visit her online at michellebarrybooks.com.

Author Residence: Connecticut

Author Hometown: Springfield, Massachusetts



Team Canteen 1: Rocky Road

Amalie Jahn

Summary

A hot pink boa that might be magic bonds 4 unlikely friends from summer camp and gives them the courage to face down the challenges they face back home.

This sassy, diverse series debut for tweens is perfect for fans of *XO, Kitty*, *The Baby-Sitters Club*, and *Julie and the Phantoms*.

On the final night of summer camp, Tasha, Raelynn, Claire, and Billie get busted stuffing themselves with ice cream in the mess hall's walk-in freezer. But when they slip away without being punished, they're convinced the pink feather boa Billie put on to stay warm is magic.

Back at home, each member of Team Canteen tests the boa's powers as they face their own challenges. When her little cousin moves in with her destructive dog, Tasha struggles to find her place inside her adoptive family. Claire's scared the kids at school will find out how hard life's gotten since her dad lost his job. Raelynn longs to be someone other than her sister's twin. And with a hockey-obsessed family charting his every move, Billie's worried he'll never be able share his dream of becoming a figure skater.

It's going to be a rocky road from the start of the school year back to Camp Happy Hollow. Will the boa continue to protect Team Canteen, or will their friendship end up being the most magical find of all?

Alternating among the friends, *Rocky Road* is a smart, soaring celebration of the highs and lows of middle school, and the unbreakable friendships that see you through, no matter what comes next.

Story Locale: Camp: Western Pennsylvania; Toronto, Canada; Tampa, Florida; Seattle, Washington suburbs; rural Virginia

Contributor Bio

USA Today bestselling author Amalie Jahn is the recipient of the Literary Classics Seal of Approval and the Readers' Favorite Gold Medal for her debut YA novel, *The Clay Lion*. Her first YA contemporary, *The Next to Last Mistake*, won the prestigious IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award in 2020 and *A Walk Between Raindrops* was selected by *Kirkus* as one of the Best Indie Books of 2023. A TED speaker, human rights advocate, and active promoter of kindness, she lives in North Carolina with her husband, two children, and three extremely overfed cats.

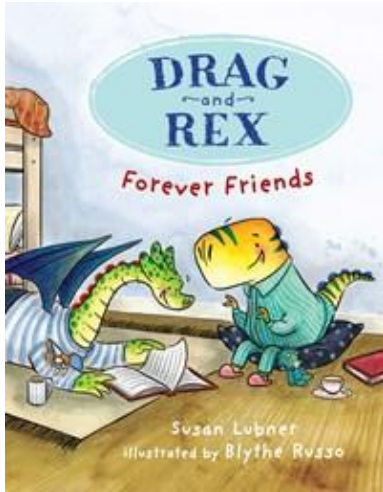
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**New in
Paperback**



Drag and Rex 1: Forever Friends

Susan Lubner, Blythe Russo

Summary

Perfect in paperback! Meet Drag and Rex, the sweet, silly best friends who find joy and adventure in the simplest places in this charming and cheery modern *Frog and Toad*.

Drag is a dreamy, literal, impulsive, (and sometimes a little bit scatter-brained) dragon. Rex is a dapper, practical, methodical (and sometimes a little bit stuffy) T.rex. The two may have their differences, but they are both gentle and caring, and the best friends. Forever friends.

Whether it's deciding what to have for breakfast, working through those tricky zippers, buckles, and buttons to bundle up tight, how to make the best of a snowy day, or how to face down something scary, through patience, cooperation, and a good dose of silliness and humor, these buddies always figure out how to push through their challenges. Together.

Forever Friends features three stories told in short chapters, accompanied by bright, joy-filled full color illustrations, allowing developing readers to gain confidence and a sense of accomplishment as they follow the adventures of their new forever friends.

Series Overview: A dragon and T-rex who are best friends explore the joys and challenges of adventures big and small in this young chapter book series told in short, charming stories.

Contributor Bio

Susan Lubner is the author of the middle grade novels *Lizzy and the Good Luck Girl* and *The Upside of Ordinary*, as well as three picture books. Her *Noises at Night*, co-authored with Beth Glass, was featured on the Today Show as a "Best Book for Young Children."

She grew up in Bangor, Maine, and currently lives in Massachusetts.

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When she's not drawing, you can find her sewing, building puppets, or in the kitchen on a never-ending quest for the perfect chocolate chip cookie recipe.

Illustrator Residence: Loveland, Ohio

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The Winterton Deception 1: Final Word

Janet Sumner Johnson

Summary

Plotting in paperback! A twisty middle grade mystery for fans of *Knives Out*, *The Inheritance Game*, and *The Westing Game*. Twelve-year-old twins enter a spelling bee in a last-ditch effort to save their family from financial ruin, only to find themselves in a cut-throat competition to uncover a fortune and dark secrets about the wealthy relations they've never known.

Hope Smith can't stand rich people—the dictionary magnate family the Wintertons most of all. Not since she and her twin brother, Gordon, learned that their dad was one. So when Gordon enters the family into the Winterton's charity spelling bee, Hope wants nothing to do with it. But with their mom losing her job and the family facing eviction from the motel where they live, they desperately need the money, and it looks like Hope doesn't have much of a choice.

After winning the preliminary round, the Smiths are whisked to Winterton Manor to compete in the official Winterton Bee against their long-lost relatives. Hope wants to get in and out, beat the snobbish family at their own game, and never see them again. But deceased matriarch Jane Winterton had other plans for this final family showdown. Before her death, she set up a clue hunt throughout the manor—an alternate way for Hope and Gordon to get the money that could change their lives.

Still, others are on the trail, too. With tensions at an all-time high, a fortune at stake, and long-simmering family secrets about to boil to the surface, anything could happen.

A tense, clever clue hunt unafraid to tackle the challenges and secrets often kept behind closed doors, *Final Word* is a gripping series starter to satisfy even the most voracious armchair detectives.

Story Locale: Oregon

Contributor Bio

Janet Sumner Johnson is the author of middle grade novels and picture books. Her *Help Wanted: Must Love Books*, was the winner of the 2021 CLEL Bell Picture Book Award and was nominated for the Colorado and Washington Children's Choice Book Awards. She lives in northern Utah with her husband, three kids, and a dog. When she isn't writing, she loves eating cookies, playing the piano, and singing along with the radio at the top of her lungs. As a kid, Janet dreamed of winning her school spelling bee. Alas, those dreams were dashed when she added a third *c* to the word *accident*. You can learn more about her and her books at janetsumnerjohnson.com.

Author Residence: North Logan, UT

Author Hometown: Santa Rosa, CA

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Plotting the Stars 2: Seagarden

Michelle A. Barry

Summary

Perfectly poised for paperback. In the second book in the searing STEAM-inspired Plotting the Stars middle grade series, Myra enrolls in an interplanetary academy exchange program to dig up more about the government's many conspiracies, but instead uproots even darker secrets that could drown everything she's grown to trust. Perfect for fans of *The City of Ember* and *Divergent*.

Revolution is watered with sweat and tears.

It's Myra Hodger's second year at the elite Scientific Lunar Academy of Magic. Her days of faking Number Whisper magic are over, and she has friends she can trust with the secret of her Botan abilities. But that doesn't mean she's through pretending to be someone she's not. Without the incredible Moongarden, she feels like she's losing herself just when she found the thing that made her feel whole.

With the ongoing interplanetary food crisis intensifying, and a new clue about what really happened to the banished Botans, all routes seem to point to Venus, and an exchange program at an academy there might provide Myra and her friends the cover they need to unearth the answers they seek.

Or it might widen the cracks already forming among them, releasing a flood of consequences that could wash away all they've worked so hard to grow.

The second book in the Plotting the Stars series, *Seagarden* blossoms with unexpected twists and heartbreaking revelations, underpinned by climate change warnings and a determination to fight against the status quo.

Contributor Bio

Michelle A. Barry is the author of *Moongarden*, the first book in the Plotting the Stars series. Born and raised in Springfield, Massachusetts, she now resides in Connecticut with her husband and their two children. Visit her online at michellebarrybooks.com.

Author Residence: Connecticut

Author Hometown: Springfield, MA

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