Ollie the Stomper

Olivier Dunrea

“Dunrea successfully adds to the Gossie and Gertie cast with these endearing tales.”
—School Library Journal, starred review

“With their simple watercolors and narrative, along with diminutive heroes who assert a budding independence, these tales demonstrate once again how well their creator knows his audience.”
—Publishers Weekly, starred review

Fans of the Gossie & Friends books will enjoy little Ollie and his big personality as he finds his way in the barnyard. Irresistible characters and delightful text make these board books perfect for springtime reading and sharing.

Olivier Dunrea lives in New York state, where he is a full-time author and illustrator of many fine picture books for children.

More board books by Olivier Dunrea:
Gossie: (BD)
Gossie and Gertie (BD)
Since it was first published in 1939, *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* has delighted generations of children. Mike and his trusty steam shovel, Mary Anne, dig deep canals for boats to travel through, cut mountain passes for trains, and hollow out cellars for city skyscrapers—the very symbol of industrial America.

Now, for the first time, *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* is in board book format with an abbreviated text for its youngest audience. Here is a sturdy book perfect for reading and sharing with toddlers.

**Virginia Lee Burton** was the talented author and illustrator of some of the most enduring books ever written for children. The winner of the 1942 Caldecott Medal for *The Little House*, Burton’s books include heroes and happy endings, lively illustrations, and a dash of nostalgia.

For more information about the author or her books, and for activities and teacher’s guides, visit www.mikemulligan.com.
Irving and Muktuk are cheating each other at cards when their polar bear friend Larry drops by for a visit. The bears eat cake topped with little fishes that Larry has brought, play a spirited game of volleyball, and afterward chat pleasantly until Larry goes home. “Visits,” Irving and Muktuk decide, “are nice.”

The next evening, when all is quiet at the zoo, the Bad Bears sneak out to pay a refined visit of their own. When they arrive at the home of the Beachball family, things—as usual for the baffled bruins—get out of hand.

Daniel and Jill Pinkwater have collaborated on many well-loved children’s books, including three previous Irving and Muktuk books. They live in upstate New York.
It can be lonely sometimes on a rainy day in a big house with no one else around and there’s only the quiet to keep you company.

But if you find a key, a mysterious key, that leads you to an unexpected place . . . chances are your afternoon is about to get a lot more interesting.

Caldecott Honor winner Barbara Lehman recalls many stormy days in childhood when she was completely content just to play or read indoors, feeling cozily sheltered inside during bad weather. This book, however, was inspired by her memories of the other kind of rainy days, the ones of feeling utterly restless and trapped and just wanting something to happen . . .
Barbara Lehman has illustrated many books for children. Born in Chicago, Barbara attended Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, where she earned a BFA in communication design. A full-time illustrator, Barbara says, “Books and art have always held the strongest attraction for me. I have always felt drawn to ‘commercial art’ because of its ability to reach many people. I like the idea of being part of the media in a meaningful and thoughtful way, especially with children as the audience.” She now lives in Claverack, New York.

Other books by Barbara Lehman:

Museum Trip

★ “Another winning picture book that blurs real and imagined worlds.”
—Booklist, starred review


The Red Book

Caldecott Honor

★ “Captures the magical possibility that exists every time readers open a book.”—School Library Journal, starred review

Lucky Jake
Sharon Hart Addy
Illustrated by Wade Zahares

When Jake and Pa find a gold nugget big enough to buy a pet, there aren’t any dogs to be found. And so Jake gets a . . . pig (“four legs, floppy ears, and a tail”), and he names him Dog.

Lucky for Pa and Jake, Dog has a nose for finding good fortune. And where luck grows like a cornstalk—tall and golden and strong—Dog and Jake are sure to be found, ready for whatever comes next.

Sharon Hart Addy is the author of several picture books for children. She says the inspiration for Lucky Jake came from her mother, who grew up during the Great Depression and believed “that luck is a combination of using what you have and working hard.” Ms. Addy lives in Dells, Wisconsin.

Wade Zahares has illustrated many books for children, including Window Music, a New York Times Best Illustrated Book. He lives on a farm in Maine and creates children’s books in a shed that is in the middle of a field of flowers, gardens, and fruit trees.
Hugo & Miles in
I’ve Painted Everything!
Scott Magoon

What happens when a very creative artist runs out of things to paint? Just runs out—as in, he’s painted everything!

Hugo, the artist in question, is in an elephunk, so he and his friend Miles leave Cornville for a whirlwind trip to Paris. They visit museums, parks, and landmarks.

So what does happen when a very creative artist runs out of things to paint? Well, he begins to see things in a very different way . . .

Scott Magoon is a designer and illustrator who lives near Boston, Massachusetts, with his family. This is his first book with Houghton Mifflin. He is not worried that he has painted everything. Yet.
Detective Small is on the case in this funny, rhyming mystery by the author of the Fireman Small stories.

All the bananas are missing. Every single one, from uptown to downtown, have been stolen! The police are stumped. Who is taking all the bananas?

Time to call in Detective Small! When all the clues lead to the obvious, Detective Small follows his hunch, leading to sweet victory in the end!

According to author/illustrator Wong Herbert Yee, his famous little firefighter Fireman Small is taking a much needed rest. Never fear, Detective Small is here! So begins a new series of adventures for another Small family member who is just as capable and determined as his firefighting brother (yes, Detective Small and Fireman Small are twins!) “A crack private eye with a nose for crime. Detective Small gets his man every time!” Detective Small’s first case to solve is the Amazing Banana Caper!
Wong Herbert Yee is an author, illustrator, graphic artist, and avid bike rider.

He tells us “nowadays I try to keep life simple by focusing on the three R’s: Reading, Riting (this is why we have editors) and Riding. It all adds up to adventure. And hopefully, between the covers of another picture book.”

Readers can find information about Wong Herbert Yee, his books, games, and activities at his web site: http://hometown.aol.com/wongherbertyee/whyhomepage.html

More books by Wong Herbert Yee:

A Small Christmas

Fireman Small—Fire Down Below!

Fireman Small to the Rescue

Upstairs Mouse, Downstairs Mole

For a complete list of books by Wong Herbert Yee visit www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com
A stunning look at man’s best friends from a Caldecott Honor winner.

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Dogs and Cats
Steve Jenkins

Are you a cat lover? A dog person? Either way, this book is for you! Read about how your favorite companion came to be a pet and how its body works. Then, flip the book over and find out about the other kind.

Once again Steve Jenkins takes children’s nonfiction to a new level. Here is an amazing book filled with great information, visual facts, and lots of animal history. The illustrations are so incredibly realistic, you’ll want to pet them!
Caldecott Honor winner Steve Jenkins reflects on the inspiration for his new book *Dogs and Cats*: “Cats. I’d like them more if they didn’t make my eyes itch and make it hard for me to breathe. My crazy, up-until-recently-aloof cat, Theo, is getting very affectionate in her old age (she’s fourteen). If I so much as touch her, though, I have to wash my hands before I forget and touch my face, or I have a bad allergic reaction . . . this makes it hard for me to bond. The thing I do like about her, and other cats, is watching her move. She’s still graceful, and everything she does is accomplished with a kind of beauty, efficiency, and delicacy that’s unlike any other animal’s I can think of. I like the way she moves through the world—she’s a hunter, descended from hunters, and it’s still so apparent.

“Dogs. I’ve lived with dogs since I was very young: two cocker spaniels, a stray who stayed, a little terrier-mix mutt, a collie/German shepherd I found in a dumpster on the interstate when I was in college, and a golden retriever, Jeff, who we got as a pup; he’s nine years old, and still with us. I just like dogs. I like their energy, their loyalty, their intelligence. I like their faces—their wonderfully expressive eyes. I was an only child until I was almost seven, and dogs were my companions. I like the way they partially bridge the gap between us and a much wilder, more elemental world.

“I did a lot of reading for this book, and I find that I like and respect dogs (and cats too, for that matter) even more because of it.”

Steve Jenkins and his wife, Robin Page, live in Boulder, Colorado, with their three children and their dog and cat.

**More books by **Steve Jenkins:**

*Move!*
with Robin Page

*Prehistoric Actual Size*

*Actual Size*

*What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?*
with Robin Page
A Caldecott Honor Book

*I See a Kookaburra*
with Robin Page
Dear Miss Perfect
A Beast’s Guide to Proper Behavior
Sandra Dutton

However beastly the problem, Miss Perfect, a correspondent for the Beastly Gazette, has the answer:

*Say “I’m sorry” if you accidentally crush someone.*

*Clean your room when asked.*

*And never chew on your sister without first asking permission.*

Readers will laugh at Miss Perfect’s often surprising but always on-target advice, and find a kinship with the animals, whose problems are not all that different from their own.

Formerly a professor of English, Sandra Dutton now lives with her husband in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, where she writes, paints, and teaches design. This is her first book for Houghton Mifflin.
Before the days of TV, DVDs, and video games, there was the circus. When it came to town, businesses and schools would shut down. Folks would gather round, for there, right in front of their eyes, was drama, action, and intrigue. There was the grace of the bareback rider, the daring of the acrobat, the strangeness of the snake lady, and the delight of the dancing pigs.

Vintage-style circus posters capture the weird and the wonderful while fascinating sidebars reveal historical truths behind America’s circuses. What was it like when the circus came to town? This book, illustrated in rich oils, gives us a ringside seat.

**Carlyn Beccia** makes her children’s book debut with *Who Put the B in the Ballyhoo?* She has a background in graphic design and advertising and has always been fascinated by vintage circus advertisements. Her grandfather set type for a living, and she used to go through his old type books and study the careful way he drew letterforms. She lives in Lynnfield, Massachusetts.
You think you know the tale of the Little Red Hen. You think you know how it ends. But in this story everything changes when the hard-working Red Hen lays a perfect white egg. And out of this egg comes a chick with a mind of her own . . .

Here is a beautiful book with fantastic woodcut prints and lyrical text that turns the tale of the Little Red Hen upside down. In classic fashion, it is the noble Red Hen who does all the work, but Red Hen’s chick, in an arresting and charming manner, chooses not to follow her mother’s tradition of exclusivity.
Tina Matthews was born in Wellington, New Zealand, and over the years has worked as a puppet maker, a bass player, a teacher, and an artist and designer. She now lives with her family in Sydney, Australia, where she writes and illustrates books for children and plants green seeds whenever she can find them.

How Out of the Egg was hatched:

Inspired by the books of Virginia Lee Burton and H. A. Rey, Tina Matthews felt it was appropriate to send her book to their publisher, Houghton Mifflin. Out of the Egg was soon plucked from an enormous pile of unsolicited manuscripts by an editorial assistant and quickly became an in-house favorite. The book represents all of the very best of Houghton Mifflin: an original voice, a mix of the traditional and modern, and a meaningful message.
When I Met the Wolf Girls
Deborah Noyes
Illustrated by August Hall

Two little girls—raised by wolves—have just arrived at the orphanage, and life will never be the same.

Based on a true story, this book is about many things at once: family, friendship, and what it means to have a home.

Deborah Noyes writes for children and adults and is a photographer, editor, and former zookeeper. She lives in Somerville, Massachusetts.

August Hall has illustrated for Industrial Light and Magic, Pixar Animation, and Dreamworks. He lives in California.
"Try to do as little as possible." This was Dodsworth’s motto. One morning, on his daily trip to the junkyard, he discovers a pink refrigerator.

There’s not much to say about a pink refrigerator, except this one had a note on it. The note said, “Paint pictures.” And so Dodsworth did.

The next day, a new note appeared on the pink refrigerator. And the day after that, and the day after that.

Dodsworth liked doing as little as possible. But the pink refrigerator had big plans for him . . .

Tim Egan is the author and illustrator of several offbeat and humorous tales for children. He is consistently recognized for his individuality and delightful illustrations. Tim Egan lives in Southern California with his wife and their two sons. When he is not writing and illustrating books, he works as an art director and designer.
When people danced to Joe Beebee’s music they forgot about bad knees, tight shoes, backaches, blisters, and beetles . . . They forgot sickness, sadness, and sin.

Joe Beebee’s music, folks say, will take you up so high, your problems look small enough to stomp on. But, worries a plain brown hen, can it make a quiet rooster sing? Can it save her best friend from becoming Quiet Rooster Stew? Will Joe Beebee even play for chickens?

With art as fun as waltzing on the moon and with words as lively as a fiddle, this book captures the power of music to heal and of friendship to endure.
Jacqueline Briggs Martin was inspired to write this story after happening on an article about Creole musician Boozoo Chavez. She read more about Cajun and Creole musicians and went to Cajun country, and a story came calling. She is the award-winning author of many fine picture books. She lives in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, and her website is www.jacquelinebriggsmartin.com.

Melissa Sweet took a trip to Louisiana to immerse herself in Cajun culture for this book. She stayed in Breaux Bridge and spent a week taking pictures and going on swamp tours to sketch cypress trees, alligators, and spoonbills. She has illustrated more than sixty children’s books. Ms. Sweet lives in Rockport, Maine, and her website is www.melissasweet.net.

More books written by Jacqueline Briggs Martin:

Banjo Granny
Written with Sarah Busse Martin
Illustrated by Barry Root

Snowflake Bentley
Caldecott Medal
Illustrated by Mary Azarian

Another book by Melissa Sweet:

Carmine: A Little More Red
A New York Times Best Illustrated Book
Here in high drama and action, Thunder God Thor, the original superhero, comes to life for a modern generation.

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The Adventures of Thor the Thunder God
Retold by Lise Lunge-Larsen
Illustrated by Jim Madsen

He is the biggest and mightiest of the gods. If he tightens his belt, he doubles his strength. If he swings his hammer, lightning flashes. When he races his billy goats across the sky, their hooves kick up huge thunderclouds. And when the folks below in Middle Earth hear a boom of thunder, they always smile, for they know their loyal Thor, protector and defender of civilization, has once again brought order to the universe.

Told and retold often and with great affection, the Thor stories have been around since the days of the Vikings. Here, illustrated with high drama and written with humor and skill, are ancient stories made accessible and fun.
Born and bred in Norway, **Lise Lunge-Larsen** was raised on Thor stories (as well as troll stories). A professional storyteller for many years, she believes that “there is so little knowledge about Norse mythology among American children, yet it is one of the greatest literatures of the western world and one that has inspired some of the fantasy classics of this century, such as J.R.R. Tolkien, Phillip Pullman, and J.K. Rowling.” She lives in Duluth, Minnesota.

**Jim Madsen** has been a professional illustrator for fifteen years. This is his first trade book for children. He lives with his wife and three children in Provo, Utah.

**More books by Lise Lunge-Larsen:**

- **Noah’s Mittens**  
  Illustrated by Matthew Trueman  

- **The Hidden Folk: Stories of Fairies, Dwarves, Selkies, and Other Secret Beings**  
  Illustrated by Beth Krommes  

- **The Legend of the Lady Slipper**  
  Retold with Margi Preus  
  Illustrated by Andrea Arroyo  

- **The Race of the Birkebeiners**  
  Illustrated by Mary Azarian  

- **The Troll with No Heart in His Body**  
  Illustrated by Betsy Bowen  
  ISBN-13/EAN: 978-0-618-35403-0 (pb)
The Pirate and Other Adventures of Sam and Alice

Akemi Gutierrez

Sam and Alice are brother and sister. Together they've made lots of friends (including a mummy) and traveled through one of the most dangerous jungles in the world. But they've never been to outer space, found pirate treasure, or met a genius crocodile—until now!

With bright, bold, round illustrations and easy-to-read text divided into three chapters—this book is perfect for newly independent readers.

Akemi Gutierrez has worked on a number of animated films for Disney and has also illustrated two picture books for children. She lives with her husband and their many pets in Southern California.
Just Grace
Charise Mericle Harper

Grace loves cats. She also loves taking pictures of cats and drawing Not-So Super comics. She doesn’t like Sammy Stringer, a boy in her class. She’s got lots and lots of ideas, and when her neighbor’s cat goes missing, Grace does her best to make Mrs. Luther feel less lonely. But as the mystery of the missing cat continues, Grace’s well-intentioned plan backfires, and she finds herself in a bit of trouble. Maybe, just maybe, Sammy Stringer will help her through.

Charise Mericle Harper lives near New York City. She has written and illustrated several picture books and books for early readers. She recently completed a graphic novel for middle graders about the stylish feline superhero Fashion Kitty. More information about Charise can be found on her website www.charisemcbooks.com.