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Jade

Spring 2024







Imagine a thrilling adventure where both sides are a bit scared, like when wolves are wary of hemp stalks! It's like a super exciting mind game that keeps you on the edge of your seat, making it perfect for a kids' story full of suspense and fun.

## Wolves and Stalks

Text by Li Shuhong  
Adapted and illustrated by Liu Na  
40 pages, 28 x 24cm, age 3+  
Poplar, 2021



In a farmer's unexpected adventure, he catches a rabbit only to realize a cunning wolf is tailing him. Armed with a stick, the farmer thinks it's sturdy, but it turns out to be a mere hemp stalk. The wolf, seeing the stick, believes it's an iron rod. As they cautiously size each other up, a chaotic showdown seems imminent. In their tense standoff, an unexpected sound from the haystack sends both the farmer and the wolf running in panic. Who will emerge as the victor in this psychological battle?

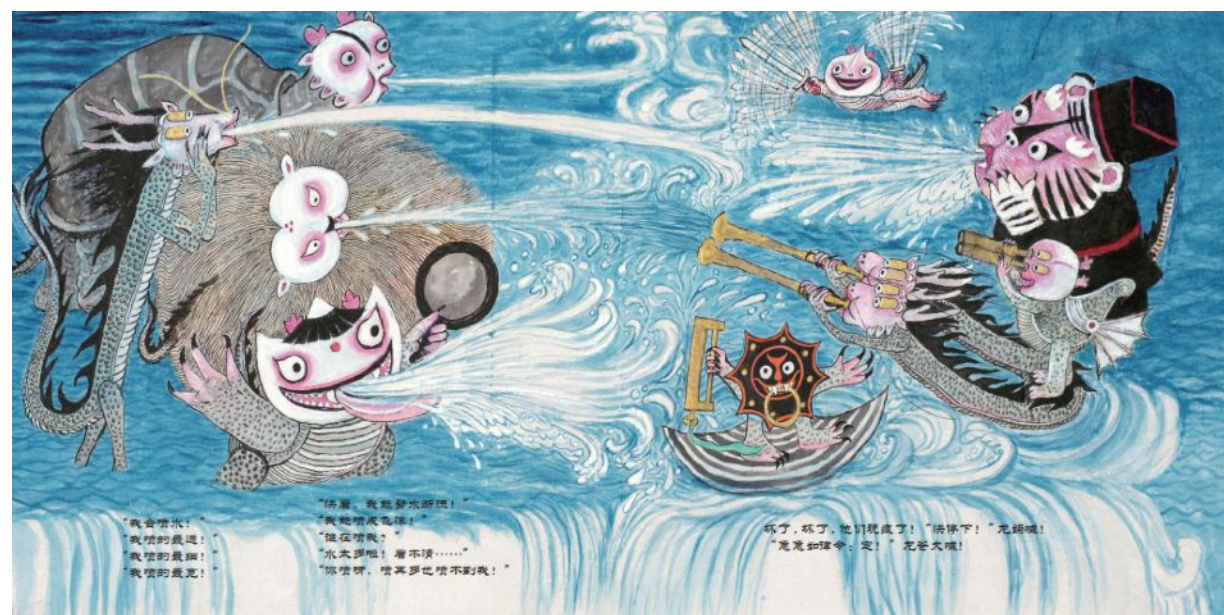


This captivating story is adapted by the artist Liu Na from the folk saying "麻杆打狼两头怕 (Hemp Stalks and Wolves: Fear on Both Ends)."

**Li Shuhong**, a passionate book enthusiast and medical doctor, deeply values traditional Chinese culture for its holistic developmental potential. Collaborating with her wife, illustrator Liu Na, they craft picture books focused on Chinese traditions, aiming to entertain and educate young readers. Their mission is to nurture children's interest in Chinese culture, guiding them towards becoming well-rounded individuals.

**Liu Na**, a talented picture book illustrator with a degree from the China Academy of Art and a Master's from Kingston University in the UK, collaborates with her husband on picture books showcasing Chinese traditions. She excels in keenly observing children's lives, capturing daily intricacies in her illustrations.





In the same series

### ***The Best Archer In The World***

Rights sold: Japanese, Russian offer received.

### ***The Long Tongue Woman And The Giant Zhupan***

Rights sold: Japanese



With adorable and humorous characters, incorporating traditional design elements like artifacts and architecture, an inspiration from folk wisdom and traditional Chinese painting styles.

Rights sold: Japanese, Russian

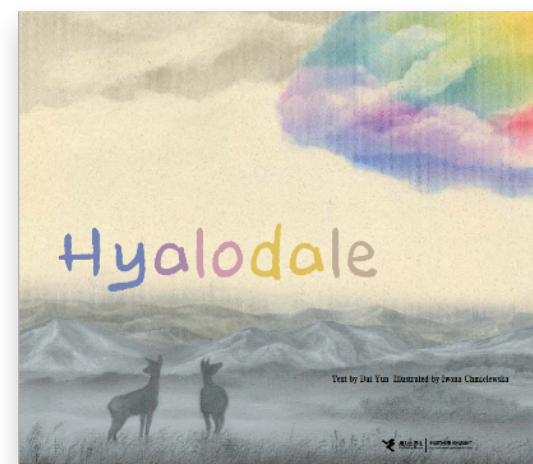
## **The Nine Sons of the Dragon**

Text by Xu Cui, illustrations by Wu Jianhua, Zhang Weicai  
48 pages, 28.5 x 28.5 cm, age 4+  
Everafter Books, January 2024

The book retells the ancient Chinese folk tale of 'A dragon has nine sons, none alike.' Born to the dragon king couple in heaven, each baby dragon possesses unique strengths but lacks spell control. Their missteps lead to a catastrophic flood, prompting them to descend to earth under their parents' guidance. Through remedying their errors and aiding mortals, the dragon sons mature, learn spell control, and embrace their fairy responsibilities. Returning to heaven, they safeguard world peace while their legend spreads among people, inspiring the design of dragon son images symbolizing peace and prosperity.

**WU Jianhua**, a picture book illustrator since the 1980s, has published numerous acclaimed works both domestically and internationally, receiving prestigious awards for his art. **ZHANG Weicai**, a picture book illustrator and sculptor, created notable sculptures and collaborated with Wu Jianhua on numerous picture books. **XU Cui**, a picture book author and illustrator, has received numerous awards for works like "Frog and Swan," "Two Geniuses," and "Waiting."





***Hyalodale* shows us a brand new world beyond the bounds of imagination—a poetic and captivating album inviting endless admiration.**

**Rights sold: Korean**

## **Hyalodale**

Text by Dai Yun  
Illustrated by Iwona Chmielewska  
38 pages, 24 x 28cm, age 3+  
Jieli Publishing, April 2024

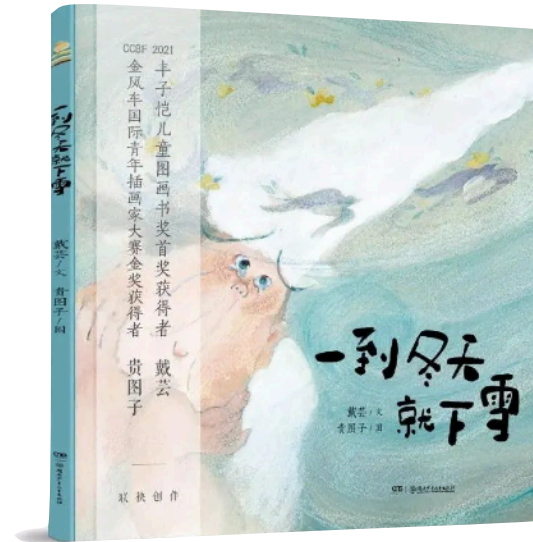
Hyalodale is an imaginary place, a world that existed before the real world appeared. Everything there is colorless and transparent until the colors fall on them one by one and the world becomes bright. What will happen when each color runs into the cloud, trees, animals and valley? How about our tears?



**Dai Yun** is an author, translator, and publicist who specializes in children's books. Nanjing is where she grew up after being born in Zhejiang. In addition to Sudan's Rhino Horn, her published works include Where Have the Stinky Socks Gone?, The White Witch's Garden, Little Tadpole Buys Airplane, The Walking Chicken.

**Iwona Chmielewska**, a Polish picture book author, was shortlisted for Hans Christian Andersen Award for four times. In 2004, she published her first picture book in South Korea, and then her Eyes and Trouble! and dozens of works have gradually won the favor of readers all over the world. She has won the Best Children's Book Award at the Bologna Children's Book Fair for three times and Bratislava International Biennial (BIB) Golden Apple Award. She is a forward-looking and innovative artist. Her works are famous for their novelty, uniqueness, creativity, imagination and philosophical depth.





The story is told in fun rhymes, with charming illustrations of the lovely witch, making it a creative and delightful read.

Rights sold: World English

## The Magical Garden and the White Witch

Text by Dai Yun, illustrations by Gui Tu Zi  
42 pages, 28.5 × 28.5cm, age 3+  
Hunan Juvenile & Children's Publishing, 2021

On the ground reside numerous black witches, while in the sky dwells a lone white witch. Her possessions are all crafted from white clouds, from the brim of her hat to the walls of her cozy abode. Every garment she wears is intricately woven from clouds, tailored to perfection. But isn't it dull, having everything in just white?

The white witch purchases fresh seeds from below, filling all her vials and bottles. She closes all three hundred and sixty-five windows tightly, so she won't be disturbed until her desire is met. "Abracadabra, bloom now, my flowers! Create a garden bursting with every hue!"

Will her determination and spells bring about the vibrant garden she dreams of, or will unexpected challenges arise?

Dai Yun, see page 4

**Gui Tu Zi** is an illustrator and picture book artist. Her real name is Liu Jing, and she is a member of the China Artists Association. She has collaborated with writers to create and publish several picture books, including *The Snowman*, *Meeting the Sheep*, *My Daughter Is Four*, and *We Start Talking about Philosophy*, *Blue Horse and Eagle*, *The Big Boat*, *The Story of the Horse-Head Fiddle*, *The Magical Garden and the White Witch*, and many more. She has been honored with prestigious awards.





**Da Wu delicately portrays the intricate bonds of family life, offering readers a touching glimpse into the universal experience of love and loss.**

**Rights sold: Korean**

### **Mom, Where Are We Going?**

Text & illustrations by Da Wu  
40 pages, 28 x 21cm, age 4+  
Jieli Publishing, April 2024



A little girl senses her mum's somber mood as they embark on an unexpected journey. Without revealing their destination, they board a bus that transports them to a place filled with nostalgia - where her mum shares stories of her own childhood. As they arrive at a familiar location, the little girl recognizes it as the path leading to her late grandma's house, a place they haven't visited since her passing. Embracing her mum, the little girl finds solace in providing comfort, mirroring the tender care her mum once provided her. Through this heartwarming tale, both mother and daughter navigate feelings of loss and longing, finding solace in each other's presence.

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**Da Wu**, a picture book author and illustrator, known for works like *The King of Trees* and *Bird and the Statue*, was born in the early 1990s. His artful storytelling and vibrant illustrations have earned international recognition, including a spot on the World's 100 Outstanding Picture Books list by dPictus in 2019. His work explores the magic in everyday life and relationships, offering readers a beautiful and insightful journey into his picture book world. Some of his works has been translated into English, Spanish, Korean, Portuguese and Danish. For more details of his works, please contact us.





**"Little Bloom Chef":**  
Discarded items transform  
into an animated spectacle, a  
labor of love capturing the  
senses in a lively kitchen.

### The Tale of Little Bloom Chef

Text by Liu Yufeng  
Illustrations by Xue Wenxi  
44 pages, 21 x 26cm, age 4+  
Poplar, 2023



In the whimsical adventure of "Little Bloom Chef," a tiny culinary maestro creates magical "Ha-Ha Pancakes" using flowers, earning the endearing moniker. Rising early, he collects fresh roses for a special sauce, but the secret ingredient is the elusive Ha-Ha Oil, requiring a laughter quest in his "Planter No.1" spaceship. Hidden in corners and children's antics, laughter proves a delightful challenge to gather.

Want a taste of the Ha-Ha Pancakes? Trade your genuine laughter for this joy-infused culinary delight!

**Xue Wenxi and Liu Yufeng:** A Dynamic Duo in Picture Book Creation, who join forces to create captivating picture books. Their original creation, "Mom, There's a Monster," claimed the second spot on the 2016 China Original Picture Book Ranking by "Parent-Child Must-Read" magazine and the Hongniba Reading Club. Another one of their original works, "The Gift," was nominated for the 3rd Xinyi Picture Book Award and was selected as one of the excellent publications recommended to young readers nationwide by the National Press and Publication Administration in 2018. Their latest notable series includes "Super Mighty Little Warriors."





This captivating tale invites young readers to explore the magic of fleeting moments, sparking wonder and joy in unexpected encounters.

## The Raccoon Café

Text by Jie Xuhua, illustrations by Zhao Yufei  
44 pages, 26 x 24cm, age 4+  
Poplar, 2022



After a long day, a boy and his mum find The Raccoon Café for warmth and comfort. Inside, they meet whimsical guests like rabbits, raccoons, and squirrels. The boy's playful games with a little fox bring back memories of his childhood. As the animals vanish mysteriously, leaving him longing, a question arises: dream or reality at The Raccoon Café?

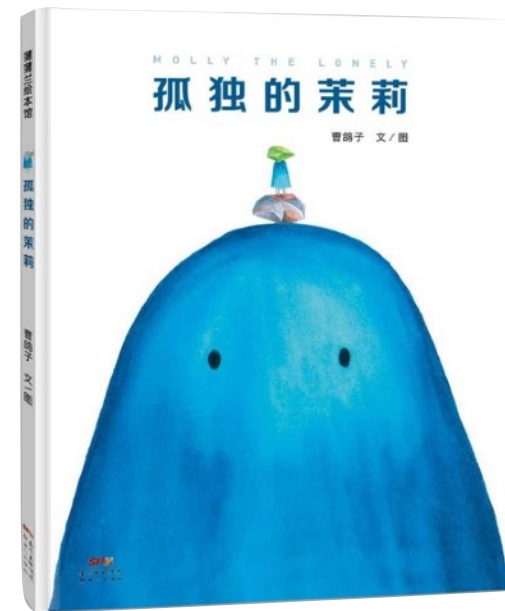
Embark on a whimsical journey with “The Raccoon Café”, where imagination and reality intertwine as a little boy discovers enchanting friendships with woodland creatures in a cozy café setting.



**Jie Xuhua**, a Children's Literature Master's graduate from Beijing Normal University, is an accomplished editor and writer. Notable works include "Kindergarten, Here I Come" (8 books) and "Magic Weather Book" (6 books), alongside fairy tales like "Little Rice in the Soup Soup Soup Country" and "Dear Little Dragon." Awarded the second “Jieli Cup Golden Wave Children's Literature Award” for contributions.

**Zhao Yufei**, a professional illustrator and picture book creator, graduated from the Illustration Department of the New York Visual Arts Academy. Their notable works include "Planet 1301," nominated for prestigious awards, and illustrated storybooks like "Tiger Tooth" and "Summer Forest." Passionate about storytelling and creativity.

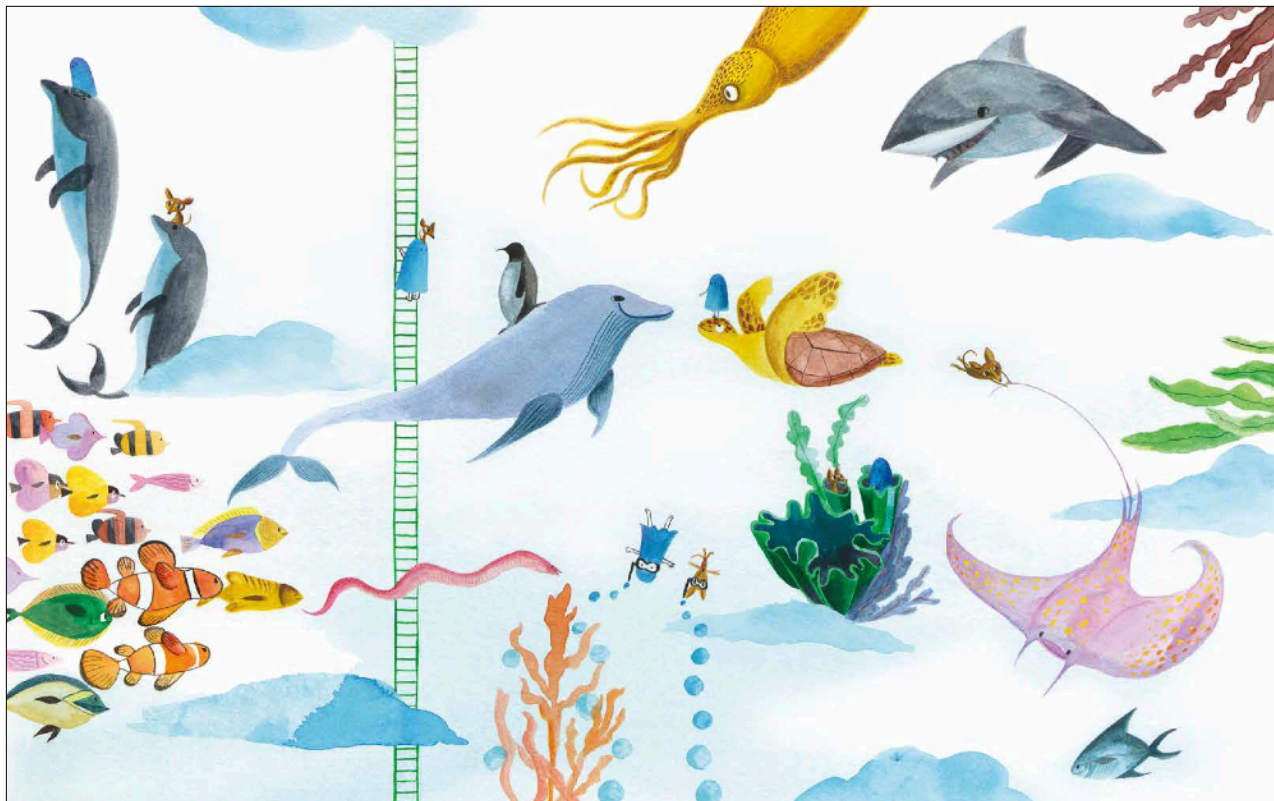




Through this evocative narrative, readers explore themes of resilience, friendship, and the transformative power of connection, reminding us that true companionship can illuminate even the darkest of nights.

### Molly the Lonely

Text & illustrations by Cao Gezi  
40 pages, 25.7 x 20.5cm, age 4+  
Poplar, 2019



Poor Molly feels very lonely and sets out to find a friend among other stone-dwelling children. Some talk too much, some cry a lot, and others are not nice to Molly. But just when Molly is at her loneliest, a special little creature appears and invites her on an exciting adventure up a never-ending ladder. As they climb higher, they discover amazing things like cities in clouds, castles with blue hats, and many different creatures. Molly learns that true friendship can make even the scariest journeys feel fun and exciting.

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**Cao Gezi**, a writer and artist born in Beijing and currently residing in New York, initiated the "Lonely Girls of New York" project in 2014 and published the novel "I Want All the Love in the World." Her artwork, "American Experiment," is currently on display at the National Museum of the United States. She is also actively working on her upcoming non-fiction novel and picture book.



## AWARDS

- ★Awarded Honorable Mention in the 2016 inaugural Zhang Leping Picture Book Award
- ★Nominated for the 2017 Golden Windmill Award
- ★Received the Outstanding Work Award in the 1st Little Hakka International Picture Book Competition
- ★Named among the "Top 100 Good Children's Books in China" by the New Reading Research Institute in 2017
- ★Ranked in the "Top 10 Original Good Children's Books in China, as Chosen by Moms" by the Magic Children's Book Club in 2017
- ★Shortlisted in the top 30 for the second Picture Book Era Award



### A-Tu's Little Porcelain Bowl

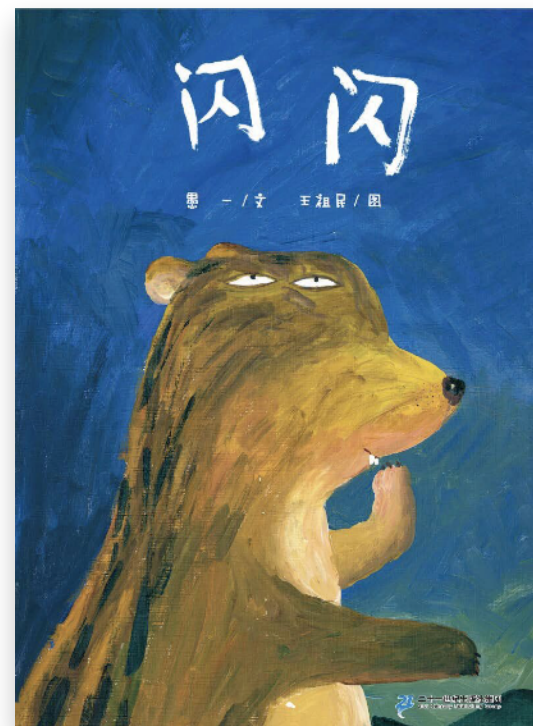
Text & illustrations by Yang Huiwen  
40 pages, 22 × 22cm, age 4+  
Poplar, 2023

Rights sold: CHI-ENG bilingual edition (paperback)

A-Tu accidentally breaks her mom's beloved porcelain bowl. Despite searching the town's workshops, no one can help her mend it until a kiln-firing master emerges, aiding in the restoration. This heartwarming tale not only showcases A-Tu's efforts to rectify her mistake but also introduces readers to various ceramic-making techniques, including the unique art of "kiln-fired" ceramic restoration.

**Yang Huiwen** graduated from the Central Academy of Fine Arts with a degree in Illustration and pursued her master's degree at the University of the Arts London. Passionate about storytelling, picture books, and traditional porcelain craftsmanship, Yang created the picture book "A-Tu's Little Porcelain Bowl" during her exploration of China's porcelain capital, Jingdezhen. The book was exhibited at the 2015 "Illustrations Tell the Story" Exhibition at the Capital Library and the 22nd Beijing International Book Fair. Before its publication, the book received the "Zhang Leping Picture Book Award Honorable Mention." Yang has also published the "Chinese Folk Tales Series: Twelve Princesses."





**A heartwarming tale about self-discovery, belonging, and the diverse forms of light one can encounter in life's journey.**

By the same authors



**An Inch of  
Light**



**Thump!  
Thump!  
Thump!**



Korean rights sold

## Twinkle

Text by Yu Yi  
Illustrations by Wang Zumin  
40 pages, 21 x 29cm, age 4+  
21st Century Publishing, 2023

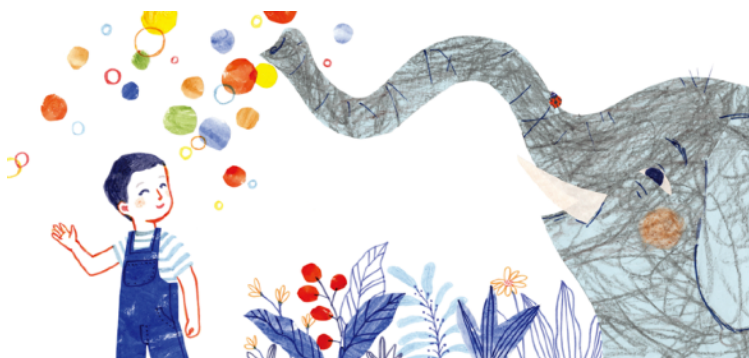
This picture book tells the story of Twinkle, the dimmest star in the vast sky, who feels lonely and leaves the world of stars to explore. Along her journey, she encounters various types of light and experiences different emotions. In the end, Twinkle decides not to wander anymore and learns that every self has a place where it is needed.

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**Yu Yi**, born in Chongqing and now residing in Guangzhou, is a prominent figure in picture books.

**Wang Zumin**, a key figure in Chinese children's literature since 1984, excelled in both editing and illustrating. With a career spanning four decades, he earned global recognition, winning the UNESCO "Japan Noma Award" and securing the 33rd Chen Bochui International Children's Literature Award.





## dPICTUS 100 Outstanding Picture Books 2019

### A Boy on the Road

Text by Peng Xuejun, illustrations by Qu Lan  
40 pages, 21.3 × 23cm, age 4+  
21st Century Publishing, 2019

**Rights sold: French, Croatian**

In this charming narrative, a young boy loses his hat, setting off a chain of heartwarming exchanges. From a bird using the hat to make a nest to an elephant offering a wild flower, each gesture of giving is reciprocated. The story unfolds in a fresh and cute style, featuring vivid images and rich colors created through collages, cutouts, and other artistic techniques. The boy's journey concludes with the return of his hat, making it a delightful and enchanting tale.

**Peng Xuejun** is one of the most renowned and influential children's authors in contemporary China. She has published many children's literature and picture books, including *Half Door*, *You are My Sister*, *The Train in the Forest*. Her works have been translated into and published in several languages including English, French, Japanese and Korean and have garnered her the Soong Ching-Ling Children's Literature Award.

**Qu Lan** was born and raised in China and has been living in France after graduation from the China Academy of Art. She works as freelance illustrator & designer and collaborates with numerous publishers and companies. Her artwork has been exposed regularly and received worldwide awards, such as Prix Janusz Korczak, Prix du Livre Jeunesse Marseille and etc.





## Happy Egg

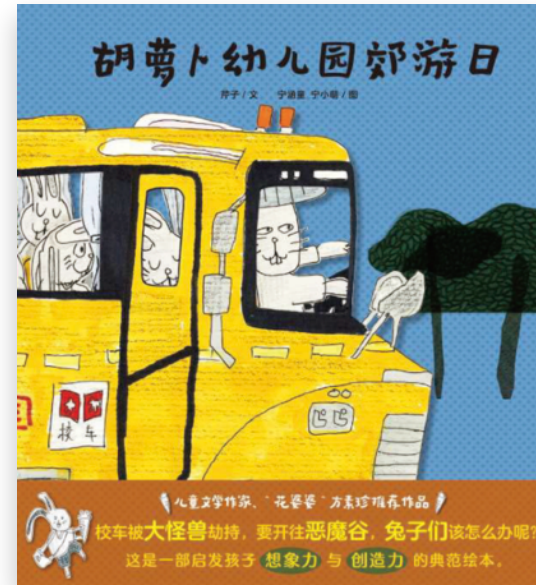
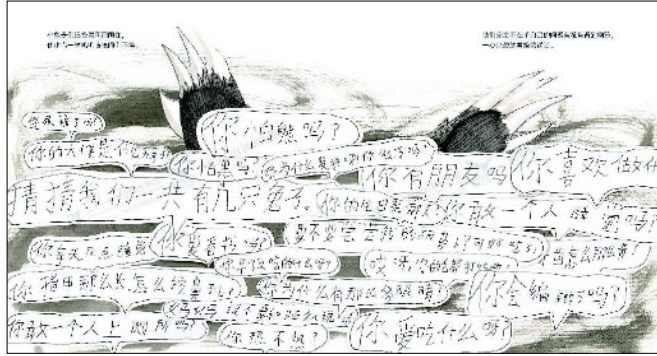
Text by Sun Lili, illustrations by Gu Mi  
56 pages, 23 × 29cm, age 3+  
21st Century Publishing, 2023

In the village of Eggtown, lives the chicken, the duck, and the goose. One morning, they stumble upon a mysterious poster announcing an egg-laying competition—the creature laying the most eggs will win a mysterious grand prize. Excitedly, the chicken, duck, and goose each prepare their eggs. Initially confident in their egg-laying abilities, the chickens soon realize that the ducks and geese are pulling out all the stops, brainstorming and utilizing every trick in the book... What will they do? Enter the ingenious chicken, devising one clever scheme after another... In the end, which home will claim the coveted grand prize?

**Sun Lili** seamlessly integrates her expertise in child psychology, early childhood education, and children's literature into the realm of picture book creation. From reading, researching, and translating to original composition, she showcases a diverse range of talents in the field. Having translated hundreds of picture books, "Happy Egg" stands as her inaugural original work, followed by the acclaimed "Mr. Li's Stories" series.

**Gu Mi**, born in Chongqing and a graduate of Sichuan Fine Arts Institute, embarked on a full-time career in children's book illustration at the age of 45 after years of playful antics, unconventional thinking, and a lack of clear aspirations. Her notable works include the "Little Mori Ann" series, along with titles like "99 Red Beans Go Traveling," "A Lonely Little Cow," and "The Sky, Not Necessarily Blue."





Get ready for laughter as this story unfolds the comical adventures of a little one who refuses to set foot in kindergarten.

## Monster's Going to Kindergarten

Text by Qin Zi, illustrations by Ning Hantong, Ning Xiaomeng  
40 pages, 25.5 × 27.5cm, age 3+  
21st Century Publishing, 2023

As the little ones of Carrot Kindergarten prepare for their trip, a terrifying monster suddenly leaps onto the school bus! Instead of frightened by the monster, the little ones start getting interest in it. One question after another drives the monster to madness, and just then, an even bigger, scarier monster arrives... With sister drawing bunnies, brother sketching the school bus, and mom directing, this lively picture book offers a comical journey through a hilarious and entertaining story.

**Qin Zi**, also known as Ji Wenqin, a full-time mom, travel enthusiast, and Taekwondo black belt, who, in 2007, embarked on a 180-day global journey with her husband and was featured on "A Date with Lu Yu." In 2014, she ventured into self-taught artistry, giving birth to a series of captivating picture books. Her publications include "Sealion Dad and His Little Daughter," "My Grandma in the Countryside" (illustrations), "Our Mom is a Lion," and "Embrace" (illustrations).

**Ning Hantong**, a 13-year-old seventh-grade student. **Ning Xiaomeng**, an 8-and-a-half-year-old third-grade student. Together, they weave a story that encapsulates creativity, adventure, and the joy of family bonds.



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