



Literary

Gazette

September 2025

Spokane Authors
P. O. Box 18573
Spokane, WA 99228-0573



Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers (SASP), now known as **Spokane Authors**, began in 1998 when *Chuck O'Conner, Elmer Freeman, Joe Meiners, and Dan Vollmer*, Spokane area authors, formed a club to share knowledge and experience with those interested in writing and alternative publishing. Today, SASP is an organization dedicated to anyone interested in any aspect of writing and art. Members include aspiring (and successful) authors, poets, journalists, illustrators, editors, publishers, printers, writing instructors, and many others. Monthly meetings provide inspiration and education by way of knowledgeable and entertaining guest speakers, and the cheerful camaraderie of people sharing common interests and goals. Membership is open to all who love writing, art, and interesting people.

Spokane Authors meets the **second Friday** of each month at the **Sans Souci West Club House**, 3231 W. Boone Ave., Spokane.

Presentations and discussions begin at **2:00 pm**. Members and guests also have a chance to relate accomplishments and note upcoming activities. We usually draw for door prizes.

Spokane Authors also meets the **third Saturday** of each month in the social hall of **St. Francis of Assisi Church**, 1104 W. Heroy Ave., Spokane.

Meetings begin at **2:00 pm**. We must be out of the room and building by **4:00 pm**.

We often provide refreshments such as bottled water, cake, or cookies. We set up a collection jar for those who wish to help reimburse whoever brings such refreshments.

Membership benefits include listing on the Spokane Authors website, www.spokaneauthors.org. Many members provide short biographies and links to external personal websites, creating more marketing exposure. Current members may list and describe their published works on the Spokane Authors website and offer their work for sale at meetings.

Visit the "members" page on our website to connect with members' webpages. Our "links" page connects to interesting on-line locations.

Guest speakers inform, inspire, and entertain with a variety of topics designed to provide knowledge about writing and publishing.

Spokane Authors members are encouraged to purchase or trade completed works with fellow members. They are also encouraged to donate copies of their work as door prizes. Winners of other members' work are expected to provide a review.

Note: Your name tag is yours to keep and maintain. We provide space to display your books, but *you* must bring them to each meeting.

Submissions Due by: September 25th for the October 2025 issue.

2025 Officers:

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(509) 671-3949

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Member: *Esther Hildahl*
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(509) 999-4797 violetpetalsbook@gmail.com

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"Like" the Spokane Authors Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679

"Join" the Spokane Authors Facebook Group:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1646364128981815/>

"Follow" us on "X": <https://twitter.com/AndAuthors>

Contact us at: authors@spokaneauthors.org

If no response : daveeva@comcast.net

Or: saspworks4u@gmail.com

Videos of many of our presentations are available at:
<https://www.youtube.com/@spokaneauthorsforyou>

Cover: Running on Broken Legs: My Journey to Joy, by Spokane Authors member Elinor Young

THE BOOKS ON THE COVER...

Spokane Authors member **Elinor Young** shares her life in her memoir, ***Running on Broken Legs: My Journey to Joy***. To learn more, go to www.spokaneauthors.org click on MEMBERS and then on her name. Elinor has twice been our featured speaker.

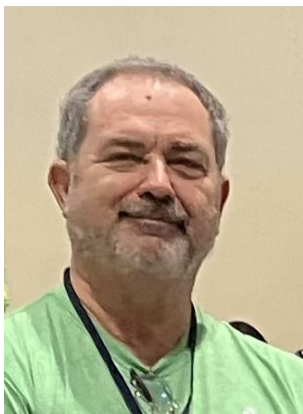
OUR AUGUST MEETINGS!

We will meet at 2:00 pm. on Friday, September 12, 2025, at the San Souci West Club House, 3231 W. Boone Ave., Spokane, WA. Robin Bishop, formerly of Art Chowder Magazine will speak about writing for newspapers and magazines.

We will also meet at 2:00 pm. on Saturday, August 16, 2025, in the social hall of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 1104 W. Heroy Ave., Spokane, WA. Bring your phone so you can call for entry if you arrive to discover the door locked. (Number will be posted at the door.)

FROM THE PREZ

Fall is almost upon us. Soon summer BBQ's will be a delicious memory, vacations...well whatever vacations are, will be relegated to the pages of a photo album. Am I dating myself here?



Ah, September, craft fairs, book sales, canning of fruit and produce and back to school for the grandkids. It's also a time of remembering. Although there are many memorable events that have happened in the month of September, some

dating all the way back to ancient times. Our most recent memories date back only a few decades. We weren't there when Athens defeated the Persian army and created what we see today as the Olympic games in 490 BC.

No, our memories focus on September 11th. 2001. It is one of those days that we

solemnly reflect on rather than celebrate. It's one of those days that we don't want to remember, but we need to, so we never forget.

As we transition into fall, we also are coming up on elections of officers in November. I know everyone loves elections, so do I. However, if we don't elect officers to handle all the stuff that keeps our group running, then, well? You know...

Also, have something ready for open mic in December. It's always a fun time to let your hair down and read out loud.

That's all for now.

Your Prez.

Carl Nathaniel

FROM OUR VICE-PRESIDENT Back to School for Some Get Ready for Craft Fair Events

School is now in session, and if you don't want an expensive ticket, watch out for those 20-mph school zones and crossing guards. Even more important, the holiday craft fair opportunities are not far off. Some of you may already have your calendars full, but there are still openings at some of the events if you don't. If you provide Dave McChesney with a list of the ones you will attend, he can help promote those. If you know of some that you aren't going to be attending, let Dave know so he can compile a list. Please include, wherever possible, the name and contact information of the coordinator of the event. The more information we share, the more we all benefit.



Our guest speaker this month will be Robin Bishop. I worked with Robin when we were both at Art Chowder Magazine, and Robin has also had other editorial experience. She will talk to the group about writing for a newspaper or magazine.

Coming up in the near future, the Alliance of Independent Authors (Alli) will be holding their annual conference on October 18-19. The totally online conference is free, but you will need to go to

<https://selfpublishingadvice.org/conference-2025> to attend. A schedule of events will be posted, so that you can choose the ones that interest you the most. Despite the packed schedule, you will have some time to watch after the live event is over. Click on the link above for further information. This is an international event, and I have watched several of their conference offerings over the past few years. I have learned some valuable things that have helped me in my writing journey. Keep in mind that many of the presenters will pitch their products, but you don't ever have to purchase anything. After all, when we do craft fairs or book readings and signings, not everyone spends money with us. But as someone wisely said, "If you don't ask, the automatic answer is always no."

Now, back to September and beyond. I recently received a call from Gena Bradford, informing me she would not be able to speak to our group in the near future. We wish Gena the best and thank her for rejoining our group as a member. I am still working on October and November, and of course, December will be open mic. I'm also working on January of next year and will let you know further details as I get them scheduled.

The August video is live, and the link, in case you missed it, is <https://youtu.be/81QkikGeRXE>. Somehow, we lost the Spokane Authors YouTube channel, but we are working on a solution. In the meantime, I am hosting the videos on my personal YouTube channel, and all the SA speaker videos are classified as Public.

I hope to see many of you at the September 12th meeting in the clubhouse at Sans Souci West. The meeting begins at 2:00 pm, and the room is open at 1:30 for setup and pre-meeting visiting. And don't forget about our Saturday meeting at 2 pm at the St. Francis church on Heroy. The details are on the website at spokaneauthors.org for both meetings.

In the meantime, I hope you enjoy our meeting venue, our speakers, and the camaraderie of our group. Be sure to let your friends and fellow authors know about our meetings and, of course, continue to write and share your accomplishments and plans with the group.

Sue Esser

FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER

The editor's work is never done. A week or so ago, I compiled notes for our August meetings, included them on our website and copied them into the working edition of the newsletter. Now, as I work on said newsletter, I noticed I did not change the dates of our meetings, so if you read about our meetings via the website and the Welcome Page, it appears we met in June, rather than August. As they say, "hindsight is 20/20!" Or as we often see today, "I do my best editing after I hit 'send.'" It isn't the first time I've messed up and it will no doubt not be the last. I think it exemplifies why we should always have someone else take a look at our work before sending it out. In this case, time may be a factor, so...



I recently emailed a handful of recent members to remind them about dues for 2025, and that they need to pay dues for 2025 if they want to have current or new books in our upcoming catalog. Being current in dues also means one is listed on the member list of our website.

Finally, a somewhat random question. Why do so few people provide the "plus four" of their Zip Code? Looking through a recent roster having seventy-six names on it, only six members have provided their complete nine-

digit Zip Code. Just curious.

As always, you can send dues to:

Spokane Authors

P. O. Box 18573

Spokane, WA 99228-0573

Or bring cash or check to a meeting. (If I remember to bring my "Square," you can charge your dues to a card.)



ELECTIONS COMING SOON!

All offices and positions are open, so if you want to contribute to the group's success, why not answer the call. Currently we need a Secretary, a Public Relations Person, and possibly an Advisory Board Member. We may need more, depending on plans of current office holders.

SPOKANE AUTHORS CATALOG

If you want your books listed in the upcoming edition of our catalog, please ensure your dues are paid for 2025.

OUR AUGUST 2025 MEETINGS

Compiled by Dave McChesney

Spokane Authors met on Friday, August 8th at the Sans Souci West Club House. Members present included Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Joel Craig, Larry Danek, Mary DeBord, Betty Deuber, Sue Eller, Mark Lee Golden, Esther Hildahl, Bob Hildahl, Suzanne Holland, Kevin Hostbjor, Steve Lalonde, Amy Logan, Bob Manion, Dave McChesney, Carl Northrup, Sandra Philbin, Elena Smith, Terry Stratton, and Sarah Vail. Gary Edwards, Anna Goodwin, and Ron Goad attended as guests. Our primary speaker was Maggie Crawford from the Spokane South Rotary Club. She gave us an overview of the organization, noting that the name originated when early meetings rotated between different locations. She told us that Rotary Club in general works to make things better around the world. They work to

combat disease, hunger, and more. They also strive to ensure educational opportunities for all and to interest children in reading. Spokane South Rotary Club works to provide reading buddies for children, as well as to make books available to them. Lisa, who also spoke, mentioned that we could contact them through our Vice-President Sue Eller if we are interested in being a reading buddy. The group also puts on a barn dance as a fund raiser for this and other worthwhile projects.

Several members announced newly published books. Elena Smith has just published *Tucker: The Dog Who Thought He Was a Person*, an interactive children's book. Suzanne Holland also has a children's book called *Three Mini Pigs Get New Digs (In Spirit Lake)*. Kevin Hostbjor is the author of *The 4th Cohort*, while Sarah Vail's new book is *The Legend of Flying Horses*, which was inspired by true events.

We ended the afternoon by awarding door prizes and taking the time to visit with one another before going our separate ways.

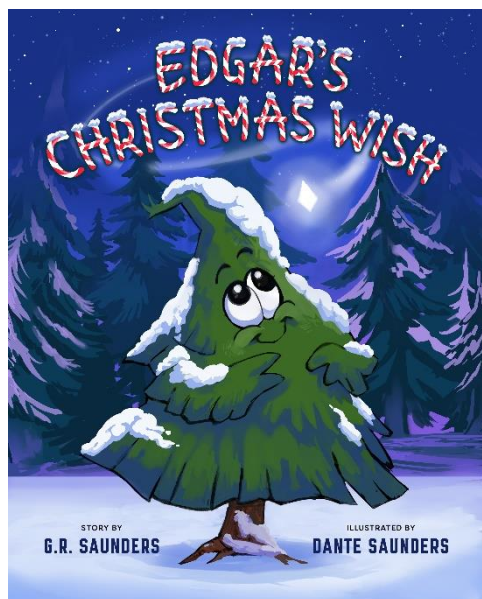
The video of our August meeting is live at: <https://youtu.be/81QkikGeRXE>.

Spokane Authors also met on Saturday August 16th at the St. Francis of Assisi Social Hall. In attendance were Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Carl Northrup, Bob Manion, Terry Stratton, and Dave McChesney. There was some general discussion of literary agents and the differences of publishing via the traditional route or opting for self-publishing.

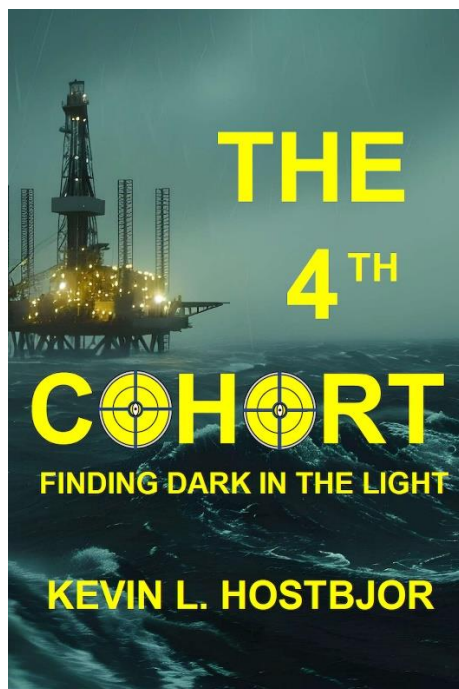
Bob Manion noted that fellow Spokane Authors member Sarah Vail has a unique and effective way of developing characters and relating a story to the reader. He also mentioned her newest book that deals with horses. That led to a discussion on horses, riding,

Finally, we decided we had been there long enough, realized that no one else was coming, packed our stuff up and went home, or to our next destination.

COMING SOON!

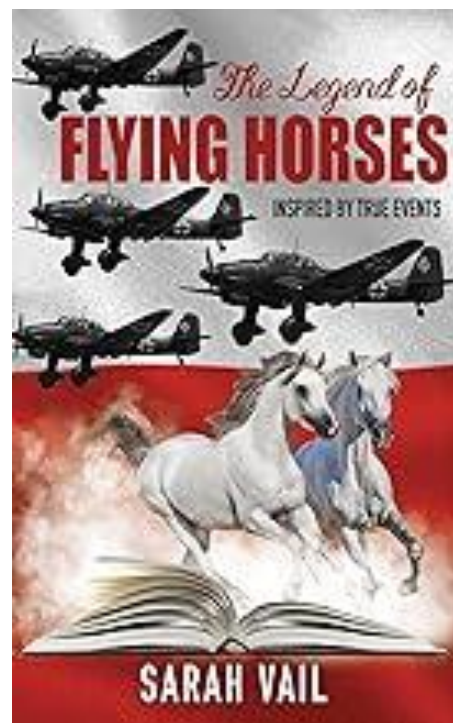
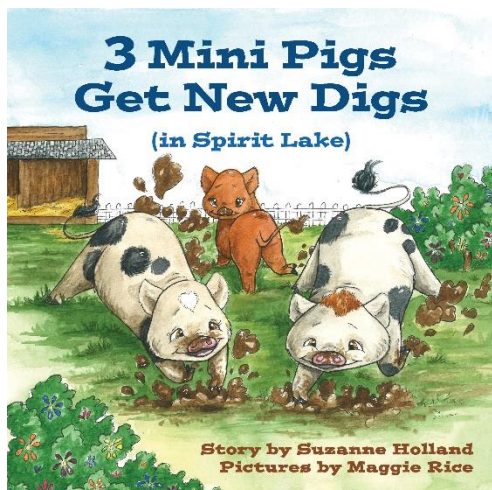


G. R. (Gail) Saunders new children's picture book is scheduled to be out in November, just in time for the Christmas shopping season. It will be available in paperback and hardback versions from BIBIOKID Publishers.



RECENT RELEASES!

Tucker the Dog Who Thought He Was a Person



UPCOMING EVENTS

INWG First Wednesday

Wednesday September 3, 2:00 pm (ZOOM)

Contact lindathewriter@gmail.com For link

Spokane Authors

Friday September 12, 2:00 pm
Sans Souci West Club House
Speaker: Robin Bishop, Editor, Deer Park Tribune

INWG Coffee with Linda

Saturday September 13, 2:00 pm
The Meeting House, 11th and Pittsburg,
RSVP at lindathewriter@gmail.com

Inland Northwest Writers Guild

Wednesday September 17, 7:00 pm (ZOOM)
Contact lindathewriter@gmail.com for link

Spokane Authors

Saturday September 20, 2:00 pm
St. Francis of Assisi Social Hall

INWG First Wednesday

Wednesday October 1, 2:00 pm (ZOOM)
Contact lindathewriter@gmail.com For link

Sans Souci West Bake and Craft Sale

Friday & Saturday, October 3 & 4, 9:00 am

Spokane Authors

Friday October 10, 2:00 pm
Sans Souci West Club House
Speaker: TBA

INWG Coffee with Linda

Saturday October 11, 2:00 pm
The Meeting House, 11th and Pittsburg,
RSVP at lindathewriter@gmail.com

Inland Northwest Writers Guild

Wednesday October 15, 7:00 pm (ZOOM)
Contact lindathewriter@gmail.com for link

Spokane Authors

Saturday October 18, 2:00 pm
St. Francis of Assisi Social Hall

Central Valley H S Arts and Crafts Fair

Saturday and Sunday, November 1 & 2.

INWG First Wednesday

Wednesday November 6, 2:00 pm (ZOOM)
Contact lindathewriter@gmail.com For link

SPOKANE AUTHORS LITERARY GAZETTE

INWG Coffee with Linda

Saturday November 9, 2:00 pm
The Meeting House, 11th and Pittsburg,
RSVP at lindathewriter@gmail.com

Spokane Authors

Friday November 14, 2:00 pm
Sans Souci West Club House
Speaker: TBA

Spokane Authors

Saturday November 15, 2:00 pm
St. Francis of Assisi Social Hall

Shadle Park HS Arts and Craft Fair

Saturday & Sunday, November 15 & 16.

Inland Northwest Writers Guild

Wednesday 19 November, 7:00 pm (ZOOM)
Contact lindathewriter@gmail.com for link

Ridgeline HS Arts and Craft Fair

Saturday & Sunday, December 6 & 7

Sandpoint Writers on the Lake

Meet twice each month, both in person and via ZOOM for critiques. Information at bonniemcdade@gmail.com

SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON/KINDLE

Many members' books are on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (We print short parts of the list on a rotating basis. The complete list is available on the website, under "NEWS")

To speed your search, add the provided ten digit numerical or alpha-numerical code (ASIN) to: [www\(dot\)amzn\(dot\)com/dp/](http://www(dot)amzn(dot)com/dp/)

Sue Eller:

Return from Armageddon

B0B1WB4C4L B0B1HXV2KS

Meadowlark Madness **B0B2HZXVQD 1639445979**

Taming of the T-Bird **B0B2V4H1FN B0B2TVKRXS**

Send in the Drones **B0B#X7SJ2 B0B3JMF374**

The Gluten Free Gourmand

B00TRBKT9U 150853134X

Short Trips to Alternate Universes

B08P342L5V B08P3QTJQL (pb)

Beth Camp:

The Mermaid Quilt and Other Tales

B0090VHKBC 1479180971

Standing Stones

B00I3RYFW6 1494772434

B01ATPTL5U (audio)

Years of Stone

B00LF3FY4S 1500129585

Rivers of Stone

B077M1TFLP 1545217491

Scattered Stones BZ0B6WNNCSN B0B8RP66QD

The Seventh Tapestry

B08GJ8VRGL B097SKDWRF (pb)

Poetry in a Time of Pandemic

B0889TDKR2 B088LKFB6G

The Cowboy and the Lady

B0C74VL5Z2 B0C76QGZMV

Mothers Don't Die

B0CGS1SJK6 B0CH26VZLK

South American Journey

B0DKB5FTQF B005D2QDTC

Unleashed Pursuit

B0D4DVZJW1 1300943984

Kate Poitevin:

Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part One)

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Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part Two)

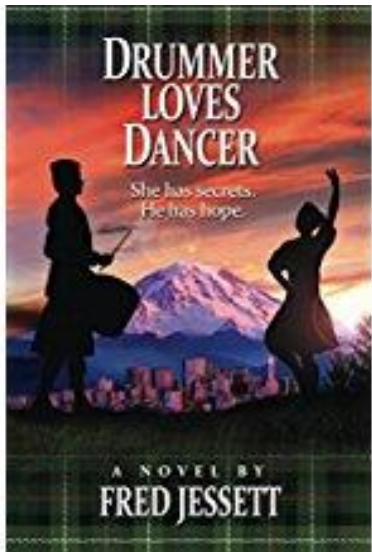
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Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part Three)

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FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

This month we have five new reviews, thanks to Esther Hildahl and Elena Smith.



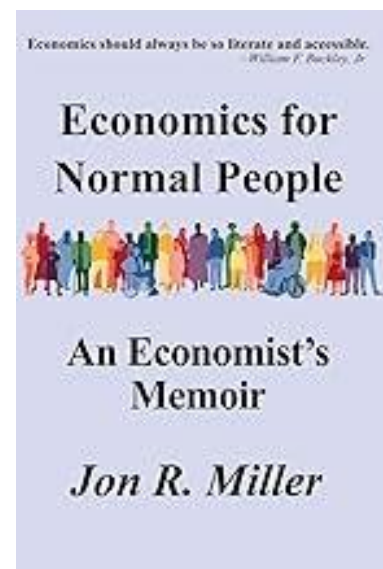
Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

Drummer Loves Dancer is an unusual love story between Lad MacAdam from Seattle and Ginger DeForest from New York in 1954.

He is a drummer in the Puget Sound Scots Pipe Band, and she is a very talented dancer. Both are rehearsing for a play at the Aqua Theater in Seattle. Lad (Drummer) falls madly in love with Ginger (Dancer). However, Ginger won't tell him that she loves him and reminds him that she will be going back to New York when summer ends. Drummer is still grieving the death of his brother, and Dancer has secrets that keep her from getting too involved in a love affair. Finally, after a huge fight, Dancer tells Drummer she loves him, too, and they have a passionate love affair for the rest of the summer. Soon it is time for Dancer to go back to New York. Drummer is sad and lost without her. Will their long-distance relationship last? You will have to read Jessett's second book, *Love's Arithmetic is Difficult* to find out.

Like his other books that I have read, this book is well-written and interesting, never boring. It's a good read and I recommend this book to one and all.

(Previous reviews of this book are available on our website. The following reviews are brand new.)



Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

I wanted to read this book because I had never had a class on economics and I thought I could learn a lot from it, which I did. The author, a professor of economics, taught

the last 28 years of his 43-year teaching career at the University of Idaho. One of the first things I learned is that economists are abstract thinkers and normal people are not abstract thinkers. Another thing I learned was that most economies are capitalist or socialist or a mix of both. Also, the more we do, the more we have, which lowers the value of an additional amount of something. Economists, unlike normal people, try to learn from their mistakes and look toward the future instead of the past. The author defines many terms for the normal person such as macroeconomics, microeconomics, GPD, labor force, how we get the unemployment rate, inflation, stagflation, depression, the American dream, compound interest, our banking system, credit, payday loans, the federal deficit and debt, the Fed, and all the other stuff you hear or read about in the news. Miller ends his book with seven rules to get rich. I learned a lot from his book and have read it twice. Plus, I will keep it as a reference book.

It is well-written with many examples to help the normal person understand the world of economists better. I recommend this book for one and all.



By Kevin Hostbjoer

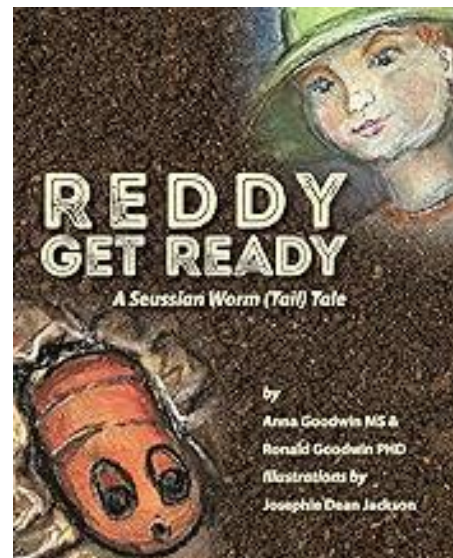
Reviewed by Elena S. Smith

I once went book shopping with a friend who had an unusual method for choosing her reads. She would flip straight to page 78, read a few lines, and then decide whether the book was worth buying. “It never fails,” she told me. Perhaps that’s a clever trick for most books—but *The Musher Man* is an exception. You don’t need to wait until page 78 to know it’s extraordinary; the strength of Kevin’s storytelling is evident from the very first page.

Kevin is a master of suspense and tension, drawing the reader in with prose that is both gripping and intelligent. What impressed me most, however, was his remarkable use of perspective. By allowing each chapter to be told through a different character’s eyes in the first person, he creates an intimate connection with the reader—bringing to life not only the characters’ voices, but also their emotions and inner worlds. This is the mark of a writer with rare empathy and skill, one who can translate human experience directly from his imagination onto the page.

The story itself is clever, layered, and wholly engrossing. I found myself utterly absorbed, unable to set it down until the final page. Kevin has delivered a novel that is not just a page-turner, but a testament to his talent as a writer.

Bravo, Kevin—*The Musher Man* is a triumph.



By Anna Goodwin MS & Ronald Goodwin PHD
Illustrations by Josephie Dean Jackson

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

This is the story of Reddy McGee, a small red worm who felt worthless since all he did was eat and tunnel holes through the dirt. When a large bee told him he was ugly, slimy, and slim with no limbs or hair, and good for nothing, he really felt bad. He talked to his papa, but it did no good. Then his family was digging and wriggling through the night when suddenly Reddy burst through the earth with a green pea. His family was so happy for here was something to eat. While his family slept deep in the earth, Reddy sneaked out and crawled to the surface. It was morning and bright. He ran into birds who wanted to eat him, a child who wanted to squash him flat, a friendly woman who handled him gently and set him free. At last he meets a millipede who is also a fortune teller. From her he learns why he and other insects that live underground are so important to our planet earth.

This story is written in rhyme, which I like, and the illustrations are well-drawn, colorful, and adorable. It's educational and for kids 4-8. The end of the book tells you facts about red worms and why they are important. Plus, it tells you how to grow red worms. I recommend this book for children and parents. It's a good read-aloud book.

Story by Suzanne Holland
Pictures by Maggie Rice

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

This is the cute, humorous story of three mini pigs, named Woody, Pippi Anne, and Penny Mae who are packed up in two crates and taken to Spirit Lake to live. Of course, the siblings are frightened but soon adjust to all the fun things of their new home like the green yard, wading pool, toys, good things to eat, their pig-sized ranch house, and their new family.

I like that this story is told in rhyme. The colorful illustrations are fun, wonderful, and well-done. At the end of the story, the author and illustrator created several fun activities for children, which include drawing, coloring, searches, and facts about mini pigs. I recommend this book for children, preschool to second grade. I also recommend this book for parents, for it is an excellent read-aloud book.

