



2000

### New In Paperback

Jim Jacobs

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

---

#### BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Jacobs, Jim (2000) "New In Paperback," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 21 : Iss. 4 , Article 6.  
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol21/iss4/6>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact [scholarsarchive@byu.edu](mailto:scholarsarchive@byu.edu), [ellen\\_amatangelo@byu.edu](mailto:ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu).

---

## New In Paperback

By Jim Jacobs

Professor

Department of Teacher Education

Brigham Young University

---

The following books have recently appeared in paperback, either for the first time or after a long absence. All are recommended.

Armstrong, Jennifer. *Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World*. Crown, 2000. ISBN 0-375-81049-8. \$9.95. 126 pages. Grades 5+. Reprint. Describes the events of the 1914 Shackleton Antarctic expedition when, after being trapped in a frozen sea for nine months, their ship, *Endurance*, was finally crushed, forcing Shackleton and his men to make a very long and perilous journey across ice and stormy seas to reach inhabited land.

Arnosky, Jim. *Crinkleroot's Guide to Knowing Animal Habitats*. Illustrated by Jim Arnosky. Aladdin, 2000. ISBN 0-689-83538-8. \$5.99. 32 pages. Grades 2-5. Reprint. Introduces different wildlife habitats, including wetlands, woodlands, cornfields, and grasslands.

Bauer, Joan. *Rules of the Road*. Puffin, 2000. ISBN 0-698-11828-6. \$4.99. 201 pages. Grades 7+. Reprint. Sixteen-year-old Jenna gets a job driving the elderly owner of a chain of shoe stores from Chicago to Texas to confront her son, who is trying to force her to retire. Along the way, Jenna hones her talents as a saleswoman and finds strength to face her alcoholic father.

Clements, Andrew. *The Laundry News*. Aladdin, 2000. ISBN 0-689-82868-3. \$4.99. 138 pages. Grades 3-7. Reprint. A fifth-grader starts a newspaper with an editorial that prompts her classroom teacher to really begin teaching again, but he is later threatened with disciplinary action as a result.

dePaola, Tomie. *Strega Nona: Her Story*. Illustrated by Tomie dePaola. Puffin, 2000. ISBN 0-698-11814-6. \$5.99. 32 pages. Grades K-3. Reprint. Grandma Concetta heals everyone with her remedies and advice, and when she retires, she leaves Nona her magic pasta pot with its secret ingredient.

Harley, Arvis. *Fly with Poetry*. Illustrated by Arvis Harley. Boyds Mills, 2000. ISBN 1-56397-798-2. \$13.95. 48 pages. Grades 3+. Original paperback. A collection of verse in which each poem is an example of a different poetic form.

Mora, Pat. *Tomás and the Library Lady*. Illustrated by Raul Colón. Dragonfly, 2000. ISBN 0-375-80349-1. \$6.99. 32 pages. Grades 2-5. Reprint. While helping his family in their work as migrant workers far from their home, Tomás finds an entire world to explore in the books at the public library.

Peck, Richard. *A Long Way from Chicago*. Penguin, 2000. ISBN 0-14-130352-2. \$4.99. 148 pages. Grades 4-8. Reprint. A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

Tunnell, Michael O. *Mailing May*. Illustrated by Ted Rand. HarperTrophy, 2000. ISBN 0-06-443724-8. \$5.95. 32 pages. Grades K-3. Reprint. In 1914, because her family could not afford a train ticket to her grandmother's town, May gets mailed and rides the mail car on the train to see her grandmother.

Van Draanen, Wendelin. *Sammy Keys and the Runaway Elf*. Knopf, 2000. ISBN 0-375-80255-X. \$4.99. 186 pages. Grades 4-8. Reprint. After a dog she is watching disappears from a city parade and the owner receives a ransom note, thirteen-year-old Sammy must use her detective skills to solve the mystery.

Wells, Rosemary. *Timothy Goes to School*. Illustrated by Rosemary Wells. Puffin, 2000. ISBN 0-14-056742-9. \$5.99. 32 pages. Grades K-3. Reprint. Timothy learns about being accepted and making friends during the first week of his first year at school.

Werlin, Nancy. *The Killer's Cousin*. Laurel-Leaf, 2000. ISBN 0-440-22751-8. \$4.99. 229 pages. Grades 7+. Reprint. After being acquitted of murder, seventeen-year-old David goes to stay with relatives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he finds himself forced to face his past as he learns more about his strange young cousin Lily.



Submitted by Sarah Olson

### Different Reading Levels

Rose, Deborah Lee. *Into the A, B, Sea: An Ocean Alphabet*. Illustrated by Steve Jenkins. Scholastic Press, 2000. ISBN 0-439-09696-0. 40 pp. **Grades 1-3.**

Patten, Brian. *The Blue and Green Ark: An Alphabet For Planet Earth*. Scholastic Press, 2000. ISBN 0-439-07969-1. 64 pp. **Grades 4-6.**

Among an avalanche of alphabet books that have been published recently, these two stand

out for two reasons: (1) their focus on Mother Nature and her creations, and (2) incomparable illustrations. Both of these books use the letters of the alphabet in tandem with a brilliantly depicted environmental awareness. (Each book concludes with a glossary.)

*Into the A, B, Sea* is an alphabet book in its truest sense. Designed for younger readers, this book uses short phrases to describe the active life of our marine world. "Dive into the A, B, Sea where...Eels explore and Flying fish soar." Jenkins' paper collage illustrations are breathlessly accurate and strikingly beautiful. Young and old alike will enjoy reading this alphabet book.

In contrast to the simplicity of *Into the A, B, Sea*, *The Blue and Green Ark* is an elegantly illustrated book designed for more advanced readers. Rather than using nature to highlight the alphabet, Patten uses the alphabet to highlight the wonders of nature. Each letter is accompanied by a poetic reflection, as well as a full-spread illustration cast by one of this book's eleven magnificent illustrators. "F is for the Fire around which Neanderthal man crouched / ... / It is for the flight of migrating birds and the frontiers beneath them / For the fish, floating like golden submarines beneath lily-pads." Because *The Blue and Green Ark* is a collaboration of illustrators, each page has its own style, medium, and tone. It is as much a visual delight as it is textual.

These books illustrate the way a common theme, such as the alphabet, can be arranged to serve a variety of purposes as well as appeal to a spectrum of ages.