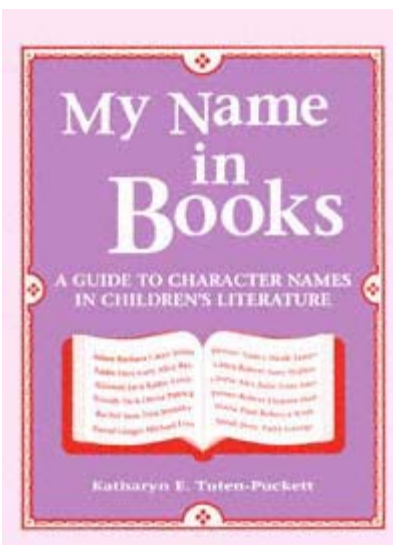


title: My Name in Books : A Guide to Character Names in Children's Literature
author: Tuten-Puckett, Katharyn E.
publisher: Libraries Unlimited
isbn10 | asin: 0872879798
print isbn13: 9780872879799
ebook isbn13: 9780585080451
language: English
subject: Children's literature--History and criticism--Dictionaries, Characters and characteristics in literature--Dictionaries, Names, Personal, in literature--Dictionaries.
publication date: 1993
lcc: PN1008.5.T87 1993eb
ddc: 809/.927/03
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Katharyn E. Tuten-Puckett

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Libraries Unlimited, Inc.
P.O. Box 6633
Englewood, Colorado 80155-6633

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Tuten-Puckett, Katharyn E.
My name in books: a guide to character names in children's
literature / Katharyn E. Tuten-Puckett.
xvi, 242 p. 22×28 cm.
Includes indexes.
ISBN 0-87287-979-8
1. Children's literature—History and criticism—Dictionaries.
2. Characters and characteristics in literature—Dictionaries.
3. Names, Personal, in literature—Dictionaries. I. Title.
PN1008.5.T87 1993
809'.927' 03dc20

93-2660
CIP

*To the staff of the Children's Department
at Monroe County Public Library,
Bloomington, Indiana.
Their love and knowledge
of children and books is contagious.*

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Acknowledgments

The author has many people to thank for assistance with this book. First and foremost, I am grateful to Virginia (Ginny) Richey, Children's Department Head at Monroe County Public Library, for sharing her idea and allowing me to work on it, for her generosity of spirit, and for her continuous encouragement and support.

Deep appreciation goes to William Hamlin, Indiana University undergraduate and computer whiz. His knowledge of hardware and software and his patience with Carmelita the Wonder Computer has made this project possible.

I am grateful for the expertise and cheerful assistance of the librarians and staff in the Children's Department at Monroe County Public Library: John Anderson, Patty Callison, Mary D'Eliso, Pat Firenze, Mary Frasier, Jim Grace, Lenny Kim, Jean Schelm, and Nissy Stetson.

Support and encouragement for this project have been offered in a variety of ways by many others and I am grateful to all of them.

Thanks go to my editor, Dr. David Loertscher; my children, Marliece Puckett and James Puckett; Linda Cornwell, Consultant, Learning Resources Unit, Indiana State Department of Education; Judith Dye, School of Library and Information Science Library, Indiana University; Sara Laughlin, Coordinator, Stone Hills Library Network, Bloomington, Indiana; Denise Ogren, Bloomington, Indiana. Thanks also go to all of those who responded promptly with current lists of book awards: James Hester, Arkansas Elementary School Council, Arkansas Department of Education; California Library Association; University of Georgia, College of Education, Department of Language Education; Linda Cornwell, Indiana State Department of Education; William White Library, Emporia State University; Jennifer Smith, Northern Kentucky University, Learning Resource Center; Flo Starkey, Coordinator of Library/Media Services, Roswell Independent School District, New Mexico; Children's Services Consultant, State Library of Ohio; Oklahoma State Department of Education; Cherie Bussert, Youth Services Librarian, Boise Public Library, Idaho; South Carolina Association of School Librarians; Janelle Paris, Texas Bluebonnet Award Committee; Katherine Olsen, Specialist, Library Media Education, Utah State Department of Education; Gail Fusnaj, Vermont Congress of Parents and Teachers; Kathy Leland, Bothell, Washington; C. Himmons, Suncrest Primary School, Morgantown, West Virginia; Jane Addams Peace Association; Office for Outreach Services, American Library Association.

Introduction

Children enjoy reading about characters that have the same first name as the reader. They also like characters with the names of their friends and family members or characters that have unusual names. The purpose of this book is to motivate youngsters to read by arranging entries by the character's first name. The names of major characters are used and a book may have more than one entry. Fiction, nonfiction (including biographies), picture books, and easy readers are included because the purpose is to encourage readers to locate characters with a particular name.

The body of the guide consists of an alphabetical listing by characters' first names. Citation information was determined by the information printed in each book and from standard reference sources including *Children's Books in Print, 1991/1992*, *The Elementary School Library Collection*, 17th edition, and *Children's Catalog*, 15th edition. Information for each title includes author, title, illustrator, publisher, publication date, number of pages, type of book, Library of Congress catalog number (LC), International Standard Book Number (ISBN), and a brief annotation. Book awards follow the annotation.

A combined author/title index and a title index are included to assist in determining the availability of titles in a collection. The books selected for inclusion in this guide should be found in most children's library collections. Included are selected award-winning books, Reading Rainbow titles, phase 1 and 2 titles from *The Elementary School Library Collection*, 17th edition, and titles from *Children's Catalog*, 15th edition.

Book Awards

Books that have been given well-known children's book awards and reader's choice book awards are included. Some titles have received multiple awards, which are cited. Some award-winning books have not been included because they do not have character names or because the book was unavailable for review.

Adult Selected Awards

JANE ADDAMS CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS. Presented annually since 1953 by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the Jane Addams Peace Association for a book "that most effectively promotes the cause of peace, social justice, world community, and the equality of the sexes and all races." Honor books may be included.

MILDRED L. BATCHELDER AWARD. Presented annually since 1968 by the Children's Services Division (now Association for Library Services to Children) of the American Library Association to an American publisher of the most outstanding English translation of a foreign-language book published in a foreign country in the preceding year.

BOSTON GLOBE-HORN BOOK AWARDS. Presented annually since 1967 by the *Boston Globe* and *Horn Book Magazine*. Two awards were given through 1975 for outstanding text and for outstanding illustration. In 1976 the award categories were changed to Outstanding Fiction or Poetry, Outstanding Nonfiction, and Outstanding Illustration.

RANDOLPH CALDECOTT MEDAL. Presented annually since 1938 by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to "the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children."

CARNEGIE MEDAL. Presented annually since 1936 by the British Library Association for an outstanding children's book written in English and published in the United Kingdom.

CHILD STUDY CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD. Presented annually since 1943 by Child Study Children's Book Committee at Bank Street College of Education. This award is given to a book of fiction or nonfiction that "deals realistically with the problems of the world."

CHRISTOPHER AWARD. Presented annually since 1969 by "The Christophers" to children's authors and illustrators "whose works have achieved artistic excellence affirming the highest values of the human spirit," and have wide public acceptance.

DUTTON JUNIOR ANIMAL BOOK AWARD. Presented annually from 1965 to 1969 by E. P. Dutton and Company. The award was presented for a fiction or nonfiction book about animals.

GOLDEN KITE AWARD. Presented annually since 1973 by the Society of Children's Book Writers. Fiction, nonfiction, and picture/illustration categories are included. "The winning titles are those which exhibit excellence in writing and genuinely appeal to the interest and concerns of children."

JEFFERSON CUP AWARD. Presented annually since 1983 by the Children's and Young Adult Round Table of the Virginia Library Association to "encourage the writing of quality books on history, biography and historical fiction."

CORETTA SCOTT KING AWARD. Presented annually since 1969 by the Coretta. Scott King Task Force of the American Library Association's Social Responsibilities Round Table. Awarded to African-American authors and illustrators "whose distinguished books promote an understanding and appreciation of the culture and contribution of all people to the realization of the 'American Dream.' "

NATIONAL JEWISH BOOK AWARDS. Presented annually since 1952 by the Jewish Welfare Board and the Jewish Book Council to "authors and illustrators who have made outstanding contributions to Jewish Literature for children."

JOHN NEWBERY MEDAL. Presented annually since 1922 by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the author "of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children."

SCOTT O'DELL AWARD FOR HISTORICAL FICTION. Presented annually since 1981 by the Advisory Committee of the Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books to a book of historical fiction "set in the new world," which has literary merit and has been published by a U.S. publisher.

EDGAR ALLAN POE AWARD. Presented annually since 1961 by the Mystery Writers of America for the best juvenile mystery of the year.

Reader's Choice Awards

ALASKA: See Pacific Northwest.

ARIZONA: ARIZONA YOUNG READERS AWARD. Sponsored by Arizona State University, Tempe, and the University of Arizona (Department of Elementary Education, College of Education), Tucson, to "stimulate the interest of young readers in outstanding literature written primarily for them." Awards presented annually since 1977.

ARKANSAS: CHARLIE MAY SIMON BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by the Arkansas Elementary School Council of the State Department of Education to promote reading and the discussion of books and to honor an Arkansas author. Awards presented annually since 1970.

CALIFORNIA: CALIFORNIA YOUNG READER MEDAL. Sponsored by the California Reading Association, California Library Association, California Media & Library Educators Association, and California Association of Teachers of English to "encourage California children to become better acquainted with 'good literature' and to honor a favorite book and its author." Awards presented in four categories since 1983.

COLORADO: COLORADO CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by the Colorado Council of the International Reading Association to "encourage children's active involvement with books and reading." Awards presented annually since 1976.

FLORIDA: SUNSHINE STATE YOUNG READER'S AWARD. Sponsored by the School Library Media Services Office, Florida Department of Education, and the Florida Association for Media in Education to "encourage students to read for personal satisfaction . . . to help students become discriminating in their personal selection of books . . . and to give recognition to those who write books for children and young people." Awards presented annually since 1981.

GEORGIA: GEORGIA CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS. Sponsored by the University of Georgia, College of Education. Awards presented annually since 1969.

HAWAII: NENE AWARD. Sponsored by the Hawaii Association of School Librarians and the Children's and Youth Services Section, Hawaii Library Association to "help the children of Hawaii become acquainted with the best contemporary writers of fiction for children, become aware of the qualities that make a good book, and to choose the best rather than the mediocre." Awards presented annually since 1964.

IDAHO: See Pacific Northwest.

INDIANA: YOUNG HOOSIER AWARD. Sponsored by the Association for Indiana Media Educators to "encourage boys and girls to read and enjoy good books." Awards presented annually since 1975.

IOWA: IOWA CHILDREN'S CHOICE AWARD. Sponsored by the Iowa Educational Media Association to "provide an avenue for positive dialogue between teacher, parent, and children about books and authors." Awards presented annually since 1980.

KANSAS: WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by Emporia State University, William Allen White Library, to "encourage the boys and girls of Kansas to read and enjoy good books." Awards presented annually since 1953.

KENTUCKY: THE BLUEGRASS AWARD. Sponsored by Northern Kentucky University, Learning Resources Center to "encourage Kentucky children to read and enjoy a variety of books and select their favorite." Awards presented annually since 1983.

MASSACHUSETTS: MASSACHUSETTS CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS. Sponsored by Salem State College to retain children's interest in reading once they have learned to read. Awards presented annually since 1976.

MICHIGAN: MICHIGAN YOUNG READERS' AWARDS. Sponsored by the Michigan Council of Teachers of English to "interest children in reading literature and to express their feelings and ideas." Awards presented annually since 1980.

MINNESOTA: MAUD HART LOVELACE BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by the Friends of Minnesota Valley Regional Library and endorsed by the Minnesota Educational Media Organization and the Minnesota Library Association to "motivate kids to read, introduce books that people may have missed, and encourage interaction between public and school librarians." Awards presented annually since 1980.

MISSOURI: MARK TWAIN AWARD. Sponsored by the Missouri Association of School Librarians to "provide the children of Missouri with their very own source to enrich their lives through reading and to find the joys that lie in being able to read." Awards presented annually since 1972.

MONTANA: See Pacific Northwest.

NEBRASKA: NEBRASKA GOLDEN SOWER AWARDS. Sponsored by the Nebraska Library Association to "encourage Nebraska children to read widely in several areas of picture books and fiction." Awards presented annually since 1981.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: GREAT STONE FACE AWARD. Sponsored by CHILIS, a Division of the New Hampshire Library Association-Children's Librarians to "promote reading for fun and enjoyment among the children of New Hampshire by having them select and honor the books that have given them the most pleasure." Awards presented annually since 1980.

NEW MEXICO: LAND OF ENCHANTMENT CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by the New Mexico Library Association and the New Mexico State International Reading Association. Awards presented annually since 1981.

OHIO: BUCKEYE CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS. Sponsored by the International Reading Association, Ohio Council, Ohio Council of Teachers of English Language Arts, Ohio Department of Education, Ohio Educational Library Media Association, the Ohio Library Association, and the State Library of Ohio to "encourage children to read literature critically, encourage teacher involvement in children's literature programs in their schools, and to commend authors." Awards presented annually since 1982.

OKLAHOMA: SEQUOYAH CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Library Resources. Awards presented annually since 1959.

OREGON: See Pacific Northwest.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: YOUNG READER'S CHOICE AWARD. Sponsored by the Children's and Young Adult Services Division, Pacific Northwest Library Association. Awards presented annually since 1940.

PENNSYLVANIA: CAROLYN W. FIELD AWARD. Sponsored by the Youth Services Division of the Pennsylvania Library Association. Awards presented annually since 1984.

SOUTH CAROLINA: SOUTH CAROLINA CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by the South Carolina Association of School Librarians, the State Department of Education, and the College of Librarianship, University of South Carolina to "expose students in grades 48 to contemporary and realistic literature concerned with a variety of subjects that relate to children's lives today." Awards presented annually since 1976.

TEXAS: TEXAS BLUEBONNET AWARD. Sponsored by the Texas Library Association, Texas Association of School Librarians, and Children's Round Table to "encourage Texas children to read more books, explore a variety of books, develop powers of discrimination, and to identify the authors of their choice." Awards presented annually since 1981.

UTAH: UTAH CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by the Children's Literature Association of Utah, Department of Educational Studies, University of Utah to "encourage the love of reading on the part of children and to introduce children to good books by outstanding authors." Awards presented annually since 1980.

VERMONT: DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by the Vermont Department of Libraries and the Vermont Congress of Parents and Teachers to "encourage Vermont school children to become enthusiastic and discriminating readers." Awards presented annually since 1957.

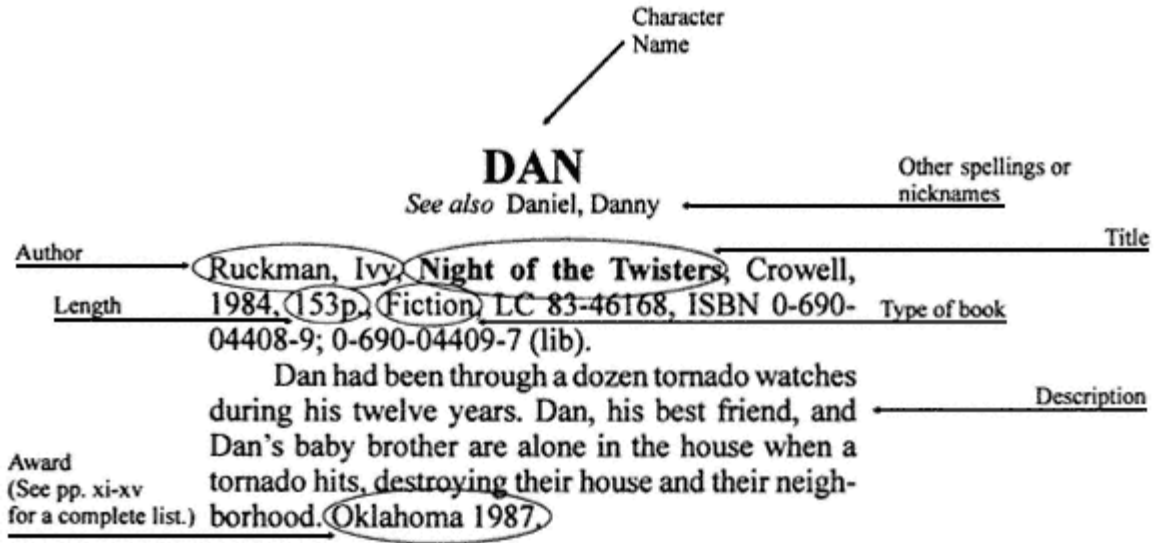
WASHINGTON: WASHINGTON CHILDREN'S CHOICE PICTURE BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by the Washington Library Media Association. Awards presented annually since 1982.

WEST VIRGINIA: WEST VIRGINIA CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD. Sponsored by an award committee to "enrich the lives of children in grades 3 through 6 by encouraging the reading of books of literary quality." Awards presented annually since 1985.

WISCONSIN: GOLDEN ARCHER AWARD and LITTLE ARCHER AWARD. Sponsored by the Department of Library Science, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Awards presented annually since 1974.

Key to Entries

Under each name, you'll find a list of books that have characters with that name. Each listing includes the author's name, the book's title, and information such as when the book was published, its length, and the type of book, followed by a short description of the book and any awards it won.



-A-

Aaron

See also Aerin, Erin

Fleischman, Paul, *Half-a-Moon Inn*, illustrated by Kathy Jacobi, Harper & Row, 1980, 88p., Fiction, ISBN 0-06-021918-1.

Aaron was born mute and uses writing to communicate. He is left alone when his mother goes to the village, and when she doesn't return, Aaron searches for her in a blizzard. He becomes entrapped by the evil manager of the Half-a-Moon Inn.

Gilson, Jamie, *Dial Leroi Rupert, DJ*, illustrated by John Wallner, Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1979, 126p., Fiction, ISBN 0-688-51888-5.

Aaron is a sixth-grade boy who is constantly getting into mischief with two of his friends. The boys get into trouble with adults and finally meet a disc jockey who helps them with their problems.

Abbie

See also Abby, Abigail

Eager, Edward, *Seven-Day Magic*, illustrated by N. M. Bodecker, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1962, 156p., Fiction, ISBN 0-15-272922-4.

Abbie finds a book of magic at the library. She and her friends have many exciting adventures with it, until the book is due and has to be returned.

Gift, Patricia Reilly, *Have You Seen Hyacinth McCaw?*, illustrated by Anthony Kramer, Delacorte, 1981, 134p., Fiction, ISBN 0-385-28389-X.

Abbie and her friend discover there are several mysteries to solve when they look for Hyacinth McCaw. There is another book about Abbie and her friend.

Roop, Peter and Connie Roop, *Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie*, illustrated by Peter E. Hanson, Carolrhoda, 1985, 40p., Nonfiction, LC 84-27446, ISBN 0-87614-275-7 (lib); 0-87614-454-7 (pbk).

Abbie Burgess and her family live in a lighthouse on an island off the coast of Maine. Abbie's father is the lighthouse keeper and when a terrible storm delays his return to the island for several weeks, Abbie must keep the lights burning. Based on a true incident that happened in 1856. A Reading Rainbow book.

Abby

See also Abbie, Abigail

Doty, Jean Slaughter, *Dark Horse*, illustrated by Dorothy Haskell Chhuy, Morrow, 1983, 122p., Fiction, ISBN 0-688-01703-7.

Abby works as a volunteer at a horse stable. She discovers that an unusual-looking horse is good at jumping and Abby is allowed to compete with him.

O'Connor, Jane, *Yours Till Niagara Falls, Abby*, illustrated by Margot Apple, Hastings House, 1979, 128p., Fiction, ISBN 0-803-886-012.

Ten-year-old Abby is concerned about how she is going to survive two months of summer camp without her best friend. Nebraska 1982.

Thomas, Joyce Carol, *Marked by Fire*, Avon, 1982, 172p., Fiction, ISBN 0-380-793-27X (pbk).

Abby was born in an Oklahoma cotton field after a tornado. As she grows up, she learns the secrets of folk medicine from a healer 1983 Jane Addams Award book.

Abe

See also Abraham

Lexau, Joan M., *Striped Ice Cream*, illustrated by John Wilson, Lippincott, 1968, 95p., Fiction, LC 68-10774, ISBN 0-590-4290-5.

Abe's sister is resigned to the fact that their mother cannot afford anything special for her birthday, but she does not understand why the family seems to have turned against her, until the big day finally arrives. Arkansas 1971.

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Abel

Steig, William, *Abel's Island*, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1976, 117p., Fiction, ISBN 0-374-30010-0.

Abel the mouse and his wife have lived happily until a great flood takes Abel to an uninhabited island where he spends a year 1977 Newbery Honor book.

Abigail

See also Abbie, Abby

Cox, David, *Bossyboots*, illustrated by David Cox, Crown, 1985, 26p., Picture Book, LC 86-16799, ISBN 0-517-56491-2.

Abigail is the bossiest girl in all of Australia. While taking the stagecoach across the bush to her home in Narrabi, she orders around the horses, the other passengers, and the driver. Abigail's bossiness comes in handy when the stagecoach is held up by Flash Fred the outlaw. A Reading Rainbow book.

Park, Ruth, *Playing Beatie Bow*, Atheneum, 1982, 196p., Fiction, ISBN 0-689-30889-2.

Fourteen-year-old Abigail is unhappy with her parents and their decision to move to Norway from Australia. While watching youngsters play a game called 'Beatie Bow', Abigail is transported to an earlier century and meets the girl that the game is named for. 1982 Boston Globe-Horn Book Award. 1981 Best Australian Book of the Year.

Abraham

See also Abe

Freedman, Russell, *Lincoln: A Photobiography*, illustrated by Photos and Prints, Clarion, 1987, 150p., Nonfiction, LC 86-33379, ISBN 0-89919-380-3.

A warm, appealing biography of Abraham Lincoln. Beginning with a lively account of his boyhood, the book continues with Lincoln's courtship of and marriage to Mary Todd. The focus is on the presidential years (1861-1865), with explanations of the many complex issues that Lincoln faced during the Civil War years. Numerous photographs and prints illustrate the book. 1988 Newbery Award book. 1988 Jefferson Cup Award.

Abyssinia

Thomas, Joyce Carol, *Bright Shadow*, Avon, 1983, 144p., Fiction, ISBN 0-380-845-091.

Abyssinia Jackson has to learn to cope with tragedy when peace is shattered in the Oklahoma countryside and her boyfriend disappears. 1984 Coretta Scott King Honor book.

Adam

Aliki, *Feelings*, illustrated by Aliki, Greenwillow, 1984, 32p., Picture Book, LC 84-4098, ISBN 0-688-03831-X; 0-688-03832-8 (lib).

Adam is just one of the children who is portrayed showing the various emotions that everyone feels: sadness, fear, jealousy, anger, love, and so forth. Poems, dialogues, pictures, and stories. A Reading Rainbow book.

Brittain, Bill, *Wish Giver: Three Tales of Coven Tree, The*, illustrated by Andrew Glass, Harper & Row, 1983, 181p., Fiction, LC 82-48264, ISBN 0-06-020686-1; 0-06-020687-X (lib).

Thaddeus Blinn was a funny little man who appeared from out of nowhere and put his tent by the annual Coven Tree Church Social. He said he had the power to give people exactly what they asked for. Adam is one of the

characters who finds that wishes often have unexpected results when they come true. 1984 Newbery Honor book.

Bulla, Clyde Robert, Cardboard Crown, illustrated by Michele Chessare, Crowell, 1984, 78p., Fiction, ISBN 0-690-04361-9.

Adam sells his most prized possession to get money to help a mysterious girl return to her father.

Gray, Elizabeth Janet, Adam of the Road, illustrated by Robert Lawson, Viking, 1942, 317p., Fiction, LC 42-10681, ISBN 0-670-10435-3.

Adam is the son of a minstrel in thirteenth-century England. His father told him that roads are important because they bring all kinds of people together and they provide a home to a minstrel. When Adam's dog is stolen and his father disappears, Adam takes to the road to search for them both. 1943 Newbery Award book.

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Greene, Constance, *I and Sproggy*, illustrated by Emily McCully, Viking, 1978, 155p., Fiction, ISBN 0-670-38980-3.

Ten-year-old Adam lives in New York, and when his stepsister comes to visit he is asked to take care of her. Through their adventures, Adam learns that making friends with someone is better than being rivals.

Levinson, Marilyn, *And Don't Bring Jeremy*, illustrated by Diane de Groat, Holt, 1985, 122p., Fiction, ISBN 0-8050-0554-4.

Eleven-year-old Adam has trouble making friends in his new neighborhood because of their attitudes toward his older brother who has neurological impairments.

Martel, Cruz, *Yagua Days*, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney, Dial, 1976, 40p., Fiction, ISBN 0-8037-9766-4.

Adam makes numerous discoveries about the differences in life in New York City and on an island when he goes to Puerto Rico to visit relatives.

Moore, Lilian, *I'll Meet You at the Cucumbers*, illustrated by Sharon Wooding, Atheneum, 1988, 63p., Fiction, ISBN 0-689-31243-1.

Adam is a country mouse. When he goes to the city to visit a friend he discovers new sights and sounds and has many experiences.

Smith, Janice Lee, *Monster in the Third Dresser Drawer and Other Stories about Adam Joshua, The*, illustrated by Dick Gackenbach, Harper & Row, 1981, 86p., Fiction, ISBN 0-06-025739-3.

Six humorous short stories about Adam Joshua include an imaginary monster in his room, and the addition of a new baby sister to the family. There are several other books about Adam Joshua.

Tapp, Kathy Kennedy, *Den 4 Meets the Jinx*, Macmillan, 1988, 118p., Fiction, ISBN 0-689-50453-5.

Adam is frustrated with his five-year-old sister who gets into everything, although he discovers that it can be helpful having a sister who knows what is going on.

Addie

Rock, Gail, *House Without a Christmas Tree, The*, illustrated by Charles Gehm, Knopf, 1974, 87p., Fiction, ISBN 0-394-92833-4.

Ten-year-old Addie wants a Christmas tree, but her father refuses to buy one even though their house is the only one without a tree. There is another book about Addie and her family.

Aerin

See also Aaron, Erin

McKinley, Robin, *Hero and the Crown, The*, Greenwillow, 1984, 246p., Fiction, LC 84-4074, ISBN 0-688-02593-5.

Aerin is the daughter of a Damarian king and a witch-woman of the mysterious demon-haunted north. In this fantasy tale, Aerin is able to claim her birthright with the guidance of a wizard and the help of the blue sword. 1985 Newbery Award book.

Agatha

Brittain, Bill, *Wish Giver: Three Tales of Coven Tree, The*, illustrated by Andrew Glass, Harper & Row, 1983, 181p., Fiction, LC 82-48264, ISBN 0-06-020686-1; 0-06-020687-X (lib).

Thaddeus Blinn was a funny little man who appeared from out of nowhere and put his tent by the annual Coven Tree Church Social. He said he had the power to give people exactly what they asked for. Agatha is one of the characters who finds that wishes often have unexpected results when they come true. 1984 Newbery Honor book.

Agba

Henry, Marguerite, *King of the Wind*, illustrated by Wesley Dennis, Rand McNally, 1948, 174p., Fiction, LC 48-8773, ISBN 0-02-743629-2.

This story follows the adventures of the Arabian stallion who was taken to England to become one of the founding sires of the Thoroughbred breed, and the mute Arab stable boy, Agba, who tended him with loyalty and devotion all of his life. 1949 Newbery Award book. Pacific Northwest 1951.

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Al

See also Alan, Albert, Aldo, Alec, Alex, Alexander, Alexandra, Alfred, Allen, Almanzo

Hurd, Thacher, *Mama Don't Allow: Starring Miles and the Swamp Band*, illustrated by Thacher Hurd, Harper & Row, 1984, 40p., Picture Book, LC 83-47703, ISBN 0-06-022689-7; 0-06-022690-0 (lib); 0-06-443078-2 (pbk).

Al and the Swamp Band have a great time playing at the Alligator Ball, until they discover the dinner menu. 1985 Boston Globe-Horn Book Award. A Reading Rainbow book.

Yorinks, Arthur, *Hey, Al*, illustrated by Richard Egielski, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1986, 28p., Picture Book, LC 86-80955, ISBN 0-374-33060-3.

Al is a janitor. He and his dog, Eddie, live a simple life in a single room. They struggle until a mysterious bird offers them a change of fortune. 1987 Caldecott Award book. Kentucky 1988.

Alan

See also Al, Allen

Levoy, Myron, *Alan and Naomi*, Harper & Row, 1977, 192p., Fiction, LC 76-41522, ISBN 0-06-023799-6; 0-06-023800-3 (lib).

Set in New York in the 1940s, Alan tries to befriend Naomi, a girl traumatized by Nazi brutality in France. 1978 Jane Addams Honor book.

Pinkwater, D. *Manus, Alan Mendelsohn, the Boy from Mars*, Dutton, 1979, 248p., Fiction, ISBN 0-525-25360-2.

As a new student, Alan befriends the class creep. The two boys buy a mind control system that takes them on hilarious adventures through time and space.

Rockwell, Thomas, *How to Eat Fried Worms*, illustrated by Emily McCully, Watts, 1973, 115p., Fiction, LC 73-4262, ISBN 0-531-02631-0.

Billy is willing to eat anything and agrees to eat fifteen worms to win a bet with Alan. Arizona 1979. California 1975. Hawaii 1976. Indiana 1977. Iowa 1980. Massachusetts 1976. Missouri 1975. Oklahoma 1976. South Carolina 1976.

Rockwell, Thomas, *How to Fight a Girl*, illustrated by Gioia Fiammenghi, Watts, 1987, 112p., Fiction, ISBN 0-531-10140-1.

Although Alan lost the worm-eating contest in another book, he is determined to get the best of his friend and comes up with a plan that involves two girls.

Van Allsburg, Chris, *Garden of Abdul Gasazi, The*, illustrated by Chris Van Allsburg, Houghton Mifflin, 1979, 30p., Picture Book, LC 79-016844, ISBN 0-395-27804-X.

When Alan takes the dog he is caring for on a walk, Fritz escapes. Fritz runs into the forbidden garden of a retired magician who hates dogs and Alan is convinced that a spell has been cast over his charge. 1980 Caldecott Honor book. 1980 Boston Globe-Horn Book Award. A Reading Rainbow book.

Alanna

See also Elana, Elena

Pierce, Tamora, *Alanna: The First Adventure*, Atheneum, 1983, 241p., Fiction, ISBN 0-689-30994-5.

Alanna wants to be a knight so she trades places with her twin brother who wants to live a quiet life. There are several books about Alanna and her adventures during the Middle Ages.

Albert

See also Al

Brown, Marcia, *Stone Soup: An Old Tale*, illustrated by Marcia Brown, Scribner, 1947, 40p., Picture Book, ISBN 0-684-92296-7; 0-684-16217-2(pbk).

Albert and the other peasants hid their food when they saw three hungry soldiers coming down the road. The soldiers taught the villagers how to make soup from three stones and soon a village feast was prepared. An old folktale. 1948 Caldecott Honor book.

Isenberg, Barbara and Marjorie Jaffe, *Albert the Running Bear's Exercise Book*, illustrated by

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Diane de Groat, Clarion, 1984, 63p., Picture Book, LC 84-7064, ISBN 0-89919-294-7; 0-89919-318-8.

Violet has been trained as a gymnast and a stunt bear. She knows numerous exercises to teach Albert so he can become a better runner. Pictures show the reader how to do the exercises with Albert. A Reading Rainbow book.

McGinnis, Lila, Ghost Upstairs, illustrated by Amy Rowen, Hastings House, 1982, 1982p., Fiction, ISBN 0-8038-9286-1.

When an old mansion is demolished, a lively young ghost moves into Albert's bedroom and gets him into humorous trouble.

Meyer, Edith Patterson, Champions of Peace: Winners of the Nobel Peace Prize, Little, Brown, 1959, 216p., Nonfiction, LC 59-7355.

Dr. Albert Schweitzer was a medical missionary in French Equatorial Africa. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1952 for his respect for all human life. 1960 Jane Addams Award book.

Aldo

See also Al

Hurwitz, Johanna, Aldo Applesauce, Morrow, 1979, 127p., Fiction, ISBN 0-688-32199-2.

When fourth grader Aldo Sossi moves from the city to the suburbs there are many changes, and making friends in a new school is one of the most difficult. There are other books about Aldo.

Alec

See also Al, Alexander

Farley, Walter, Black Stallion Returns, The, Random House, 1945, 199p., Fiction, LC 45-8763, ISBN 0-394-80602-6; 0-394-90602-0 (lib); 0-394-83610-3 (pbk).

Alec Ramsey is heartbroken when his beloved horse, the Black Stallion, is taken by an Arab chieftain. Alec's love for his horse takes him halfway across the world to the Great Central Desert of Arabia on an adventure of intrigue. Pacific Northwest 1948.

Kingman, Lee, Luck of the Miss I, Houghton Mifflin, 1986, 153p., Fiction, ISBN 0-395-40421-5.

Eleven-year-old Alec has many problems to overcome as he trains for a rower's race, including the capsizing of his boat.

Alex

See also Al, Alexa, Alexis, Alexander, Alexandra

Bawden, Nina, Finding, Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1985, 153p., Fiction, ISBN 0-688-04979-6.

Alex was found in the arms of a statue as a baby and adopted by a family who raised him. He becomes fearful that he will be taken away when an elderly woman thinks that he may be her grandson.

Graeber, Charlotte, Mustard, illustrated by Donna Diamond, Macmillan, 1982, 42p., Fiction, LC 81-20764, ISBN 0-02-736690-1.

Eight-year-old Alex and his family think Mustard is the most wonderful cat in the world. Mustard is fourteen and has been with the family since before Alex was born. It is hard for the family to accept the realization that Mustard is old and losing his health. West Virginia 1986.

Jukes, Mavis, Like Jake and Me, illustrated by Lloyd Bloom, Knopf, 1984, 30p., Picture Book, LC 83-8380, ISBN 0-394-85608-2; 0-394-95608-7 (lib).

Alex wants to be like Jake, his big, strong, stepfather. But when a large, hairy spider crawls into Jake's clothes, Alex finds that there are some things that even cowboys are afraid of. Alex becomes the brave one as he searches for the spider. 1985 Newbery Honor book.

Orlev, Uri, Island on Bird Street, The, Houghton Mifflin, 1984, 162p., Fiction, ISBN 0-395-33887-5.

Alex is an eleven-year-old Jewish boy who is left alone in the Warsaw ghetto for five months when his mother disappears and his father is sent to an unknown destination by the Germans. 1985 Jane Addams Honor Book,

Park, Barbara, Skinnybones, Knopf, 1982, 112p., Fiction, ISBN 0-394-849-884; 0-394-949-889 (lib).

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Alex Frankovitch has been in Little League for six years and is the smallest team member. His wisecracking and bragging get him into a humorous battle of skills with a pitcher who has a perfect record. Georgia 1985. Minnesota 1985. Texas 1985. Utah 1987.

Roberts, Willo Davis, *Magic Book, The*, Atheneum, 1986, 150p., Fiction, ISBN 0-689-31120-6.

Alex and his friends try magic spells from an old book but the spells don't give the anticipated results.

Alexa

See also Alex

Savage, Deborah, *Rumour of Otters*, Houghton Mifflin, 1986, 156p., Fiction, ISBN 0-395-41186-6.

Fourteen-year-old Alexa lives on a remote New Zealand sheep station. She has heard rumours of otters that only the Maori tribesmen have seen and decides she will find them.

Alexander

See also Al, Alec, Alex

Boston, Lucy, *Children of Green Knowe*, illustrated by Peter Boston, Peter Smith, 1955, 157p., Fiction, ISBN 0-8446-6288-7.

Alexander is one of the children who lived in the ancient house of Green Knowe during the seventeenth century. The children meet a boy from the present and they have many adventures. There are five books in this series.

Garden, Nancy, *Prisoner of Vampires*, illustrated by Michele Chessare, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1984, 213p., Fiction, ISBN 0-374-36129-0.

Twelve-year-old Alexander Darlington meets a vampire while he is researching a school project and soon sinister events take place. Alexander and his friend Mike decide they have to stop the vampire in this suspenseful and scary tale set in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Keller, Mollie, *Alexander Hamilton*, Watts, 1986, 72p., Nonfiction, ISBN 0-531-10214-9.

A biography about Alexander Hamilton, a famous statesman who was involved in the Constitutional Convention of the United States.

Lasker, Joe, *Great Alexander the Great, The*, Viking, 1983, 32p., Nonfiction, ISBN 0-670-34841-4.

As a boy Alexander overcame a frightened horse and became determined to not let anything overcome him. As a man, he conquered one of the greatest kingdoms of his time and was known as a leader and a warrior. A biography of this famous and feared leader.

Lionni, Leo, *Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse*, Pantheon, 1969, 31p., Picture Book, ISBN 0-394-82911-5.

Alexander is a small mouse who makes friends with a toy mouse and wants to be just like him, until he makes a discovery about the toy. 1970 Caldecott Honor book.

Peck, Richard, *Ghost Belonged to Me; A Novel, The*, Viking, 1975, 183p., Fiction, ISBN 0-670-33767-6.

Alexander and his friend Blossom Culp become involved with an elderly man and a ghost and have humorous adventures. There are other books about Alexander and Blossom.

Raskin, Ellen, *Westing Game, The*, Dutton, 1978, 185p., Fiction, LC 77-18866, ISBN 0-525-42320-6.

Alexander is one of the sixteen people invited to the reading of the very strange will of the very rich Samuel W. Westing. Alexander could become a millionaire depending on how he plays the tricky and dangerous Westing Game. 1979 Newbery Award book. 1978 Boston Globe-Horn Book Award. Michigan 1982.

Ross, Josephine, Alexander Fleming, illustrated by Edward Mortelmans, Hamish Hamilton, 1984, 60p., Nonfiction, ISBN 0-241-11203-6.

Dr. Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin while working as a researcher in a bacteriology department. As a result, he won the Nobel Prize for medicine for this important medical contribution.

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Viorst, Judith, *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, illustrated by Ray Cruz, Atheneum, 1977, 28p., Picture Book, LC 72-75289, ISBN 0-689-30072-7.

Alexander knows it will be a bad day when he awakes with gum in his hair and trips on his skateboard getting out of bed. As the day continues everything goes wrong. Georgia 1977. A Reading Rainbow book.

Alexandra

See also Al, Alex

Greene, Constance, *Your Old Pal, Al*, Viking, 1979, 149p., Fiction, ISBN 0-670-79575-5.

Alexandra, known as Al, is waiting for two special letters when her best friend comes to visit. There are other books about Al.

Alexis

See also Alex

Hodges, Margaret, *Avenger*, Scribner, 1982, 178p., Fiction, ISBN 0-684-17636-X.

Set in ancient Greece, fifteen-year-old Alexis is determined to avenge his father who had his ship attacked by pirates and received no help from the neighboring king. Alexis becomes involved in the Olympic games and has dangerous and exciting adventures.

Alfie

See also Al, Alfred

Byars, Betsy, *Cartoonist, The*, illustrated by Richard Cuffari, Viking, 1978, 119p., Fiction, ISBN 0-670-20556-7.

Alfie treasures his private room in the attic where he can escape from his family and draw his cartoons. When his privacy is threatened, Alfie is determined to keep his room.

Alfred

See also Al, Alfie

Meyer, Edith Patterson, *Champions of Peace: Winners of the Nobel Peace Prize*, illustrated by Eric von Schmidt, Little, Brown, 1959, 216p., Nonfiction, LC 59-7355.

Alfred Nobel was the Swedish inventor of dynamite who left his fortune to establish the Nobel Foundation to give an international peace prize in his honor. 1960 Jane Addams Award book.

Alice

Adams, Laurie and Allison Coudert, *Alice and the Boa Constrictor*, illustrated by Emily Arnold McCuUy, Houghton Mifflin, 1983, 87p., Fiction, ISBN 0-395-33068-8.

Alice studies snakes at school and she is determined to buy a boa constrictor for a pet. She has many humorous ideas for making money to buy the snake and a cage. When she finally gets her snake there is havoc.

Burchard, Peter, *Sea Change*, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1984, 117p., Fiction, ISBN 0-374-36460-5.

Stories about Alice, Ann, and Lisa who are grandmother, mother, and daughter. The stories tell about how family members deal with problems and with one another.

Carroll, Lewis, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, illustrated by Anthony Browne, Knopf, 1988, 118p., Fiction, ISBN 0-394-80592-5.

The classic story of Alice and her many adventures in an unusual land after she falls down a rabbit hole.

Cooney, Barbara, *Miss Rumphius*, illustrated by Barbara Cooney, Viking, 1982, 32p., Picture Book, LC 82-2837, ISBN 0-670-47958-6.

As a young girl, Alice Rumphius wanted to visit faraway places, live by the sea, and make the world a more beautiful place. By the time Alice is elderly, she had done all three. 1983 Jane Addams Award book.

Lindbergh, Anne, *Worry Week*, illustrated by Kathryn Hewitt, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1985, 131p., Fiction, ISBN 0-15-299675-3.

Thirteen-year-old Alice and her two younger sisters spend a week by themselves in their beach cottage in Maine and make many discoveries.

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Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds, *Agony of Alice*, The, Atheneum, 1985, 119p., Fiction, ISBN 0-689-31143-5.

Eleven-year-old Alice has a difficult time in sixth grade with one uncomfortable experience after another until she's not sure she will ever become a self-confident teen.

Robinson, Barbara, *Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, The, illustrated by Judith Gwyn Brown, Harper & Row, 1972, 80p., Fiction, LC 72-76501, ISBN 06-025043-7; 06-025044-5.

The six Herdman kids are so awful it is hard to believe they are real. When they decide to participate in the church Christmas pageant, Alice thinks it will be the worst one ever. Georgia 1976. Indiana 1978. Minnesota 1982.

Skurzynski, Gloria, *Minstrel in the Tower*, illustrated by Julek Heller, Random House, 1988, 60p., Fiction, ISBN 0-394-99598-8.

Set in the medieval times, Alice and her brother are kidnapped and held captive in a tower when they set out to find their uncle.

Alicia

Pope, Elizabeth Marie, *Perilous Gard*, The, illustrated by Richard Cuffari, Houghton Mifflin, 1974, 280p., Fiction, ISBN 0-395-18512-2.

Alicia is beautiful but unwise, and when she sends a letter to the queen, her sister is punished and sent to a mysterious castle where she has fantastic adventures. 1975 Newbery Honor book.

Alison

Krensky, Stephen, *Ghostly Business*, Atheneum, 1980, 144p., Fiction, ISBN 0-689-31048-X.

Alison is one of the Wynd children who uses her magic powers to prevent ghosts from taking over houses in Boston.

Allegra

Lindbergh, Anne, *Worry Week*, illustrated by Kathryn Hewitt, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1985, 131p., Fiction, ISBN 0-15-299675-3.

Eleven-year-old Allegra and her two sisters make many discoveries when they spend a week by themselves at the family beach cottage in Maine.

Allen

See also Al, Alan

Gardiner, John Reynolds, *Top Secret*, illustrated by Marc Simont, Little, Brown, 1985, 110p., Fiction, ISBN 0-316-30368-2.

Allen Brewster decides to experiment with human photosynthesis for a science project. In this humorous story, Allen surprises everyone when he turns green.

Almanzo

See also Al

Wilder, Laura Ingalls, *Farmer Boy*, illustrated by Garth Williams, Harper & Row, 1953, 371p., Fiction, ISBN 0-06-026421-7.

Almanzo Wilder is a young boy growing up on his father's farm in northern New York in the 1800s. His life and that of the Ingalls family will intertwine in later books in this popular series.

Wilder, Laura Ingalls, *These Happy Golden Years*, illustrated by Garth Williams, Harper & Row, 1953, 288p., Fiction.

Laura Ingalls begins teaching and Almanzo Wilder begins courting her in this book in the popular series about the Ingalls family. 1944 Newbery Honor book.

Alvin

See also Al

Dorros, Arthur, *Alligator Shoes*, illustrated by Arthur Dorros, Dutton, 1982, 22p., Picture Book, LC 82-2409, ISBN 0-525-44428-9.

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Alvin the Alligator is locked in a shoe store by mistake. He tried on a large variety of shoes before deciding to keep a very special pair. A Reading Rainbow book.

Greenwald, Sheila, Alvin Webster's Surefire Plan for Success (And How It Failed), Little, Brown, 1987, 95p., Fiction, ISBN 0-316-32706-9.

Alvin is a very bright student who learns to be a sympathetic and decent person when he is forced to help another student to learn math.

Hicks, Clifford, Wacky World of Alvin Fernald, illustrated by Laura Hartman, H. Holt, 1981, 143p., Fiction, ISBN 0-03-057783-7.

In this humorous story, Alvin is determined to outdo the mayor with his April Fool's joke. There is another book about Alvin.

Manes, Stephen, Hooples' Horrible Holiday, The, illustrated by Wally Neibart, Avon, 1986, 121p., Fiction, ISBN 0-380-89740-7 (pbk).

Alvin Hoople becomes involved in a series of misadventures when he and his family fly to his grandparents' home for Thanksgiving.

Amanda

Adler, C. S., Good-Bye Pink Pig, Putnam, 1985, 176p., Fiction, ISBN 0-399-21282-5.

Amanda is shy and finds it difficult to attend a new middle school. She retreats into a fantasy world and confides in a small rose quartz pig until she makes friends with the school custodian and begins to face the real world.

Bromberg, Andrew, Computer Overbyte; Plus Two More Codebreakers, illustrated by Mary Komblum, Greenwillow, 1982, 47p., Fiction, ISBN 0-688-00943-3.

Amanda and Sherlock Jones solve three mysteries by breaking codes and identifying clues.

Bulla, Clyde Robert, Lion to Guard Us, illustrated by Michele Chessare, Crowell, 1981, 117p., Fiction, ISBN 0-690-04097-0.

Amanda's father went to the Jamestown colony in Virginia, leaving his family in London. When their mother dies, the children decide to join their father and experience a shipwreck.

Lyon, George Ella, Borrowed Children, Orchard, 1988, 154p., Fiction, ISBN 0-531-08351-9.

Amanda lives in the mountains of Kentucky during the Depression years. She has to assume adult responsibilities when her mother becomes ill and requires lengthy bedrest. 1989 Golden Kite Award.

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley, Headless Cupid, The, illustrated by Alton Raible, Atheneum, 1972, 203p., Fiction, LC 78-154763, ISBN 0-689-20687-9.

Amanda is an unusual person. A student of the occult, she wears her ceremonial costume and takes her crow to meet her new stepfamily. When she discovers a headless cupid on the stairwell of their house, Amanda is certain that the house once had a poltergeist. 1972 Newbery Honor book. Kansas 1974.

Ambrosia

Rohmer, Harriet, Uncle Nacho's Hat, illustrated by Veg Reisberg, Children's Book Press, 1989, 32p., Picture Book, LC 88-37090, ISBN 0-89239-043-3.

Ambrosia gives her Uncle Nacho a new hat, but he spends so much time worrying about his old hat that he doesn't

A Writer's Guide: Naming Characters. Add to Favourites. Comment. It's hard to take a book, or a character, seriously when you want to roll your eyes every time you read the narrative. In this article I've compiled a list of things to consider when naming a character for a novel, and though it's pretty simple, I hope it serves to help someone in their future endeavors to name a character. Most of this is common sense, but it's often easy to forget these little tidbits of wisdom when you're busy trying to figure out if your character makes a better Ashley or a Paige. Try not to end your character names in "es"; it makes it difficult to write: Hanses? Hanses? What?