Cypress House Pick of the Lists
PNBA 2019

Cypress House, Lost Coast Press, QED Press

PNBA: TABLE 31 (Sunday, October 6, Rep Picks – 3:51 pm)

The Lady with Balls:
A Single Mother’s Triumphant Battle in a Man’s World

By Alice Combs
Published by Cypress House
ISBN 978-0-9987854-1-7, Paper, 6 × 9, 320 pages, $18.50
Available from Ingram, Baker & Taylor

During the 1970s, Alice Combs, undeterred by a former employer’s condescending pronouncement, “You’re just not corporate material,” transformed herself from divorced mother on food stamps to successful entrepreneur. Alice overcame her initial ignorance of the recycling and baler-wire industries, and recovered from the novice mistakes she inevitably made while teaching herself to operate Vulcan Wire, which would slowly grow to become a thriving business despite an embezzling partner, cutthroat competitors, and several employees who proved unreliable when they were most needed. Alice refused to be intimidated and wouldn’t take no for an answer. Her exceptional achievement in a traditionally all-male arena is an inspiration for all women who aspire to the heights of success in their chosen fields.

“Written with the same verve Alice Combs demonstrated when building a thriving business from nothing. An exhilarating and inspiring read.”
—Norma Watkins, Ph.D., author of The Last Resort and That Woman from Mississippi

“Alice Combs undertook a journey into the world of business that many women know little about—the hidden world of products that allow the economy to thrive. In her memoir, Alice is revealed as a creative, courageous and prescient woman and mother who remains humble and honest about her life efforts. The title is aptly drawn from the man’s world in which she competed and excelled.”
—Dr. Linda Lambert, author of The Justine Trilogy and eight books on leadership

NCIBA: Saturday, September 21, 5:45–6:30 PM Author Reception (Atrium)
PNBA: BUZZ Book; Author signing, October 7, 1:00–1:30 PM
Perfect Practice:
A Philosophy for Living an Authentic and Transparent Life
By Mary S. Corning
Circle Around Publishing
Available from Ingram
We can shift our perspective and change our world! Life can be exceptionally gratifying when we realize that our thoughts create our interactions and our interactions create our relationships. To truly relate is what living is all about. This book is meant as a seed. Its message offers inspiration for living an authentic and transparent life. As a resource for life, it unites what is seen as separate and heals what is wounded. Readers will learn how to transform: pain into purpose; conflict into confidence; and fear into curiosity. These are the shifts we can make to build a better life and a better world to live in.

PNBA: BUZZ Book
Author signing Monday, October 7, 10:30–11:00 AM

Georgette’s Day in the City
By Monica McGue
Illustrated by Toby Cowan
Published by Pets People & Me
ISBN 9781733487306
Size: 8” x 8” Litho Casebound
Full color: 24 pages
$14.99
Available from Ingram
Join Georgette as she prepares for the day and heads off to an exciting adventure in the park with all her animal friends. You’ll discover a world of fun, compassion, and cooperation—all great lessons that young children are eager to learn. In Georgette’s magical world, she reminds us that the animals are our friends, our teachers, our family members, and our companions. Georgette and her special friends will fill your heart with joy. Included is a teaching guide that allows teachers/adults and young readers to interact with Georgette’s world. Recognition of the day, colors, counting, sounds, safety, games, family, and names are all identifiers that give the reader a more in-depth understanding of Georgette and her friends. A “color Georgette’s bow” cutout activity is included for youngsters; and most important, the guide provides young readers a relatable opportunity to understand the importance of compassion, inclusiveness, and kindness.

NCIBA: Illustrator signing Saturday, September 21, 3:30 PM
PNBA: Author & Illustrator signing Monday October 7, 11:30–Noon
Georgette’s Day in the Country
By Monica McGue
Illustrated by Toby Cowan
Published by Pets People & Me

ISBN 9781733487313
Size: 8” x 8” Litho Casebound
Full color 24 pages
$14.99
Available from Ingram

Ben, the rooster, crows “cock-a-doodle-doo,” waking the farm animals, while Belle, the donkey greets Georgette at her window. It is a beautiful day at the farm and there are many chores to accomplish throughout the day, and of course, some play time too! Georgette heads to the barn to see all her friends. Smokey, the rocking horse is in the tack room along with old Sam. The horses, Lance and Olivia are in their stalls, and Cheddar the mouse is ready to work! Harvesting lemons is work but the animals find time to play a game of “hide and seek.” Jelly Bean, the goat cannot be found. Crash, bang! What could that be? Georgette and friends discover Jelly Bean in the country store. Oops! One of the jelly bean jars is empty! Jelly Bean has lived up to his name eating a jar of jelly beans, only to discover his tummy does not feel very good. Dr. Chew Boney to the rescue, and all is better!

PNBA: Author & Illustrator signing Monday October 7, 11:30–Noon

Wild Blueberries:
Tales of Nuns, Rabbits & Discovery in Rural Michigan
By Peter Damm
Illustrated by Suzanne Anderson-Carey
Published by O’Brien & Whitaker Publishers
Available from Ingram

Some writers look at life with their eyes, others with their hearts. In this collection of personal stories, Peter Damm does both. His vignettes of growing up in small-town rural Michigan are also a closely observed portrait of mid-20th-century America. The lyrical tones of the storyteller are generous, wry, elegiac, and humorous, as he recalls the joys of fishing on Lake Platte or feasting on wild blueberries in autumn. This is not, however, a collection of pretty postcards. Damm’s family experienced depression, alcoholism, and loss, and he writes with a survivor’s compassion. These are beautifully illustrated stories for all the senses, held in place by strands of memory that alternate between steel and gold.
German & Spanish Military Rings – A Historical Perspective Collector’s Edition

By Stephen J. Shaw, with Mike Lovell
Published by Kollektor Press
Spring 2020
ISBN: 978-1-7327464-0-4
Hardcover, 7.5 × 9.25, 480 pages, Color illustrations, Resource List, Index, and Collector’s Guide
Available from Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Book Clearinghouse, Cypress House
PRICE: $40.00
BISAC: Antiques & Collectibles / History / Military / World War II

Military rings are a unique facet of war memorabilia. German & Spanish Military Rings spans World Wars I and II, the Spanish Civil War, and the rise of the Nazi party. In this book, both the new collector and avid enthusiast will find a rich variety of rare and spectacular rings—each connected to a geographic area, a campaign, an ideology, a unit, or a memorable event or accomplishment. The superb illustrations and informative text about the medals and tokens awarded to German and Spanish combatants provide a unique and compelling look at military history. Through Stephen Shaw’s inspired approach of linking military artifacts with historic events, you will:

- gain new insights into military ideology and combat operations from three world conflicts;
- learn about women’s roles under Fascist dictators Franco and Hitler;
- find sound advice for both novice and seasoned collector on authenticating, managing, securing and dispersing your collection;
- better understand how the Nazis used a combination of terror, propaganda, and coercion to gain total control of German society;
- discover ways of sharing your own trove with your community through exhibits, displays, speaking engagements, and article writing;
- examine photographs of the author’s extensive collection of German and Spanish military rings; and
- gain new insight into how Hitler rose from obscurity to become one of the most powerful and tyrannical dictators of all time.
My Garden of Flowers: Miracles in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
By Manjeet Kaur, M.D.
Inspirante Publishing LLC
RETAIL PRICE $34.95
SPECS: Hardcover with dustjacket; 8.5 × 10, 480 pages, full color, glossary, index
BISAC: Medical / Perinatology & Neonatology
Available from Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Book Clearinghouse, Cypress House

Truly a celebration of life, My Garden of Flowers takes the daunting mystery out of the NICU experience and gives worried parents knowledge and reassurance that their critically ill infants will typically grow to adulthood and lead normal, healthy lives. It’s an invaluable resource for families who suddenly face the crisis of seeing their little cherubs amidst alien tubes and wires and the incessant beep of monitor alarms. These families are totally unprepared, anxious—no, petrified—and uncertain of what to do. My Garden of Flowers eases the emotional distress and the fear surrounding neonatal intensive care. It’s full of practical advice, information on common problems of babies in the NICU, charts, checklists, and coping tips, it’s a priceless resource to help parents care for their precious bundles while in the NICU and when they’ve come home. The compelling message from the doctors and nurses, as well as twenty-five families of our NICU graduates whose candid, heartwarming stories are told in their own words, is: You Are Not Alone!

“Dr. Kaur reminds us of how miracles occur through the power of community, dedication, and love. My Garden of Flowers provides comfort and inspiration for healthcare providers and for the families of preterm infants.”

—Jochen Profit, M.D., MPH Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Neonatology, Stanford University, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital
Frog’s Rainy-Day Story and Other Fables
By Michael James Dowling
Illustrated by Sarah Buell Dowling
Published by Carpenter’s Son Publishing
ISBN 978-1949572469, Hardcover, 8 × 10, 72 pages, $19.95
Distributed by IPS

What’s Frog to do when the letters he’s using to write a story rebel and begin marching off the page? What choices will Gander make when his plans for the day are disrupted by an invitation from the king? Join in these and other amusing adventures in this delightfully entertaining book of eight fables that whimsically contrasts the wisdom of today’s world with the wisdom of God’s Word. The book will warm hearts and tickle minds. The entire family will want to read it together again and again. Children will love the entertaining and instructive stories, adorned with more than forty illustrations. Adults will chuckle as they see many of their own behaviors mirrored in the insightful tales. A “Burrowing Deeper” study guide with thought-provoking questions about each fable is available for free download at www.FrogsRainyDayStory.com. It’s an ideal resource for personal reflection, family devotions, home school studies, Christian school and church Sunday school classes, and small group discussions.

River to Ocean:
Living in the Flow of Wakefulness
By Katherine Jansen-Byrkit, MPH, LPC
Published by Harbor Glow Publishing
ISBN 978-1733744904, 6 × 9, 244 pages, $16.95
Available from Ingram

At sixteen, suicidal and weighing nearly 200 lbs., Katherine Jansen-Byrkit was far from feeling expansive. Her journey of awakening began with a suicide attempt and the long, hard passage between despair and hope. After healing from the inside out, Katherine shares her message. Moving from the inner world to the outer, she provides insights, practices, and inspirational stories as she explores nine aspects of wakefulness. This river guide reflects the human voyage of finding our way to an awakened self. As with a river traversing steep mountains and winding valleys, our inner and outer worlds can be encumbered by old beliefs, preoccupation with death, or compromised relationships with others, all of which can interfere with living wakefully. Katherine suggests another possibility: to wake up through our human life, not in spite of it.
Annie Imagines
By Mary Elizabeth Smith
Illustrated by Linda Carol Carter
Published by Senigami Publishing
ISBN 978-1732440548, hardcover, 8 × 10, 32 pages, $16.95
Available from Ingram, Baker & Taylor
Annie is a girl who thinks she sees fairies but isn’t sure. She turns to her grandmother for an explanation and reassurance. Through a process of presenting imaginative encounters, Grandma elevates Annie’s ability see things in a new way, allowing her creativity to soar. The grandmother is the creative mentor in Annie’s evolution toward confidence, first by accepting Annie’s expression of doubts and confusion over her perception of fairies; secondly, through Grandma’s ability to mirror Annie’s fantastic imagination, she gently guides Annie into acceptance of her creative ability. The connection with Grandma becomes the most important relationship in Annie’s artistic and imaginative development. This is the basis that builds Annie’s, and any child’s, self-esteem, confidence, and aspiration.

Please visit Blackstone Audio, too, to learn about these Cypress House and Lost Coast Press titles soon to be released in audio format:

_The Lady with Balls_ by Alice Combs
_The Last Aloha_ by Gaellen Quinn
_Surviving Cancerland_ by Kathleen O’Keefe Kanavos

155 Cypress Street  Fort Bragg, CA 95437  800 773-7782  Fax 707 964-7531
www.cypresshouse.com  publishing@cypresshouse.com
During the 1970s, Alice Combs, undeterred by a former employer’s condescending pronouncement, “You’re just not corporate material,” transformed herself from divorced mother on food stamps to successful entrepreneur. Alice was resolute; she overcame her initial ignorance of the recycling and baler-wire industries, and recovered from the novice mistakes she inevitably made while teaching herself to operate Vulcan Wire, which would slowly grow to become a thriving business despite an embezzling partner, cutthroat competitors, and several employees who proved unreliable when they were most needed. Alice refused to be intimidated and wouldn’t take no for an answer. Her exceptional achievement in a traditionally male arena is an inspiration for all women who aspire to the heights of success in their chosen fields.

ALICE COMBS grew up in Tarzana, California, and married at age twenty. She put her own college education on hold and did pink-collar work to put her husband through college. Eleven years later she became a single mother of two young daughters. She finished college, then worked briefly at a now-defunct department store until she was told, “You’re just not corporate material.” Humiliated, Alice was determined to be her own boss. She discovered she was indeed corporate material, as long as it was her corporation. Alice has become a sought-after speaker who wants to empower women who wish to pursue careers in business.

The Lady with Balls is a PNBA BUZZ BOOK
Reps Pick of the Lists, Sunday, October 6, 3:51 pm
Author signing, October 7, 1:00 - 1:30 pm
CYPRESS HOUSE ✴ TABLE 31
In this memoir of female grit and glory, Alice Combs combines emotive vignettes of family, failures, and love interests, but above all her fierce determination to make a living and be a leader in a man’s world. As Combs was climbing out of a career path to nowhere and a dead-end marriage that left her living on food stamps and struggling to care for two little girls, a wacky offer by a male friend—to help him with his tangled business endeavor selling baling wire—incited the author’s yen to prove herself. Having been told that she wasn’t ‘corporate material,’ she gradually set that incorrect analysis on its ear. With little assistance and a lot of incentive, she learned the baling-wire business, from memorizing the basic terms to watching and listening to the screeching machinery that compacts and binds up unwanted cardboard boxes.

Combs has a great gift, not only for business but also for writing about business. Her book is constructed episodically, with action, reaction, and reflection permeating every page. Dealing with a domineering mother, a selfish husband, dishonest business partners, and difficult clients, she battled every day to keep herself and her little family afloat. She did extensive research to keep ahead of the game. She hired other aspiring entrepreneurial women. She scored a major coup when her company got a contract with Safeway—and later survived the crisis when that contract was lost. Now happily married, she still owns a piece of her once-struggling enterprise, Vulcan Wire, which continues to thrive. Near the end of the book, Combs shares ‘Seven Basic Business Lessons,’ concluding with her wish that the reader may ‘be a braver person than I was’—though such a braver person will be hard to imagine after reading her remarkable saga.

Quill says: Anyone hoping to make a success in the highly competitive realm of small business can learn from author Combs, and anyone who likes the motivational account of a woman’s rise to power in a man’s world will find the story of The Lady with Balls inspiring and educational.”

Alice Combs undertook a journey into the world of business that many women know little about—the hidden world of products that allow the economy to thrive. In her memoir, Alice is revealed as a creative, courageous and prescient woman and mother who remains humble and honest about her life efforts. The title is aptly drawn from the man’s world in which she competed and excelled.”

—Dr. Linda Lambert, author of The Justine Trilogy and eight books on leadership

“The Lady with Balls, Alice Combs’s memoir about her struggles to create a good career for herself in a male-dominated business world, is a page-turner. Alice is such a vivid character! I came to admire her courage and her determination to do what was right for herself and her two girls. The book is very worth reading, a clear reminder of how exceptionally strong women have in recent times made real headway for younger women in the workplace.”

—Ida Rae Egli, author, No Rooms of their Own: Women Writers of Early California, 1848–1869

Blackstone Audio Release: October 2019
GEORGETTE’S DAY IN THE CITY
ISBN 9781733487306
Size: 8” x 8” Litho Casebound
Full color: 24 pages
$14.99

It’s a beautiful day in the city! Follow Georgette as she readies for the day. Choosing her “bow of the day,” Georgette excitingly heads to the city park to meet her friends. Georgette passes by her favorite store, The Pet Shop, and stops by Sunshine Market. Ms. Baker always leaves treats for all! At the city park, Georgette and friends agree it is a great day for a game of “nose ball.” Dashing for the ball, Wheels takes the lead! Cleo the cat calls, “goal!” Georgette’s world inspires kindness and friendship.

GEORGETTE’S DAY IN THE COUNTRY
ISBN 9781733487313
Size: 8” x 8” Litho Casebound
Full color 24 pages
$14.99

Ben, the rooster, crows “cock-a-doodle-doo” waking the farm animals, while Belle, the donkey greets Georgette at her window. It is a beautiful day at the farm and there are many chores to accomplish throughout the day, and of course, some play time too! Georgette heads to the barn to see all of her friends. Smokey, the rocking horse is in the tack room along with old Sam. The horses, Lance and Olivia are in their stalls, and Cheddar the mouse is ready to work! Harvesting lemons is work but the animals find time to play a game of “hide and seek.” Jelly Bean, the goat cannot be found. Crash, bang! What could that be? Georgette and friends discover Jelly Bean in the country store. Oops! One of the jelly bean jars is empty! Jelly Bean has lived up to his name eating a jar of jelly beans, only to discover his tummy does not feel very good. Dr. Chew Boney to the rescue, and all is better!
About the Author

Monica McGue was inspired by Georgette, a West Highland White Terrier. A dog has been part of Monica’s life, along with horses and other farm animals, since she was born. Young Monica developed a passion for animals, whether trying to saddle the family’s horse at the age of two, or putting bows on Max the Basset Hound. These early experiences created an understanding of the important bond between humans and animals, whom Monica considers family members, friends, and teachers. Monica’s first book captures Georgette’s personality and those of Georgette’s friends, which reflect kindness, inclusiveness, and compassion.

About the Illustrator

Toby Cowan has been a designer/illustrator from an early age. As a child, he would spend endless hours drawing. His junior-high graduation gift was a drafting table. Cats have always been part of his family life along with dogs. He believes that animals know more than we give them credit and, if we pay attention, can teach us wondrous lessons.

More Books Coming Soon

We are busy working on new titles.

GEORGETTE’S DAY IN THE MOUNTAINS
ISBN 9781733487320
Size: 8” x 8” Litho Casebound
Full color: 24 pages
$14.99

“Wooo wooooo,” the whistle blows as the train pulls into the station. Georgette hops off to greet her friends. Blanketed with snow, the mountain is a place for fun activities. Skiing, snowboarding and ice-skating are packed into the day. Truckee Dawg, and other friends join Georgette on the mountain playing and sharing how to be safe in the snow. The warm fire will feel good at the end of the day.

CHEDDAR’S BARN
ISBN 9781733487344
Size: 8” x 8” Litho Casebound
Full color: 24 pages
$14.99

“Squeak! Squeak!” Cheddar the Mouse is giving orders to everyone in the barn. He may be little but he is mighty, keeping everything in order — Watley the Pig there, Blossom the Cow here. A summer storm blows in and the barn creaks and shakes leaving quite a mess, but Cheddar gets it all in order. Oh! There’s a surprise when Blue-Eyed girl shows up. What does she know?

SMOKEY & SAM
ISBN 9781733487337
Size: 8” x 8” Litho Casebound
Full color: 24 pages
$14.99

“Neigh!” The horse wakes everyone up in the stable. Smokey, the rocking horse feels the sunshine and his sidekick, Sam, yawns. It’s another fun day. Here comes the oats and hay for breakfast. Smokey imagines himself frolicking with the horses. Ever faithful, Smokey gives children their first ride. What secret does he share with Lancelot at the end of the day?
“Peter Damm’s stories about growing up in Michigan made me laugh aloud, cry, and occasionally wince when they hit too close to home. He infuses his stories with a deeply felt sense of place. The lakes and forests of his Michigan youth take on the presence of characters in his narrative. This is a lovely collection of stories, well conceived and beautifully told. The clean economy of the language and its cadences possess a quality that is almost poetic. Wild Blueberries is a gem of a book.”

William Rodarmor—Award-winning journalist, French literary translator

“Peter Damm’s memoir, Wild Blueberries, is a joy to read. What emerges is a lyrical, rich and complex account of growing up in rural Michigan. The story of his Catholic coming of age is skeptical in tone, at times amusing, and yet we see how a sheltering tradition can comfort and unify. I read Wild Blueberries in two sittings, held by its directness and simplicity. It was a pleasure to be in the hands of an intelligent and generous author.”

Leo Litwak—Guggenheim Fellow, winner of a Jewish National Book Award and O. Henry Award

“In Wild Blueberries Peter Damm tenderly sketches out the delights and tribulations of a seemingly quiet Midwestern childhood. Wrestling with the riddles of his Catholic inheritance, we hear the questions of a smart, sensitive young man trying to puzzle out the mysteries of sin, sex, and spirit, and make sense of the adult world. There is a gentleness and humor to Damm’s stories that invites the reader to reflect on his or her own journey to maturity.”

J. Ruth Gendler—Writer, artist, teacher. Author of The Book of Qualities, Changing Light, and Notes on The Need For Beauty

ISBN 978-0-9668431-8-7
Distributed by Ingram
To Independent Bookstores Nationwide

Some writers look at life with their eyes, others with their heart. In this beautifully written and illustrated collection of evocative, funny and moving stories, Peter Damm does both. These are vignettes of growing up in small town rural Michigan, but also a closely observed portrait of mid-century America.

But this isn’t a collection of pretty postcards. Damm’s family experienced difficulty, alcoholism and loss, and he writes with a survivor’s compassion. The writing is spare, direct, lyrical, truthful. These are stories for all the senses, held in place by strands of memory alternately steel and gold.
From the book: Rabbits

“Those Catholics are just like rabbits,” I heard people whisper. At first I didn’t understand what they meant. But later I realized they were talking about having babies. Rabbits had lots of babies and so did Catholics. But I couldn’t understand why rabbits and Catholics, in particular, had so many babies and why Methodists, for instance, or Presbyterians, did not. Or nuns. It was the nuns who baffled me most. They were women and Catholics, yet they never had babies. When I was in Catholic grade school I tried endlessly to solve this riddle. I even applied my version of Aristotelian logic to the problem. The syllogism went something like this:

Women have babies;  
Catholic women have lots of babies;  
Nuns are both Catholic and women  
(and holier than the rest, and babies are  
a blessing from God)  
Therefore, nuns should have lots and lots of babies.

I always wondered what happened to these babies the nuns had. Finally I figured it out. They must quietly give them to Catholic families all over the diocese. Maybe there were some of these “nun-babies” in my own family. Two of my brothers were redheads and didn’t look anything like the rest of us. But that was alright. We were all Children of God and Steve (he and Mike were the redheads) built model airplanes and ships that I loved. But every now and then, when he had one of his redheaded temper tantrums, I wished the nuns had given him to someone else.”

2019 Events & Promotion

SF Bay Area BOOKSTORE APPEARANCE  
SF Bay Area BOOKSTORE APPEARANCE  
SF Bay Area BOOKSTORE APPEARANCE  
Sep 20-21 NCIBA Fall Tradeshow, Burlingame CA  
Oct 2-4 GLIBA/MIBA Heartland Tradeshow, Cleveland OH  
Oct 6-8 PNBA Fall Tradeshow, Portland OR  
2019 Great Lakes Independent Booksellers Holiday Catalog  
2019 Midwest Independent Booksellers Holiday Catalog

About the Author: Peter Damm

Peter Damm’s life has traveled varied tracks. He was raised in small town rural Michigan and graduated with Honors from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He later studied with National Book Award winner Wright Morris, and with Guggenheim Fellow and National Jewish Book Award winner Leo Litwak in the Master’s Creative Writing Program at San Francisco State University. He has lived abroad and traveled widely in Europe, India, Bali, Mexico, and parts of the Middle East, Indonesia, Central and South America, and New Zealand.

He worked on the grounds crew of a golf course, as a banquet waiter, on road construction crews, the staff of magazines, and as a freelance writer and editor. He has taught European travel classes, taught English language and American culture to Japanese university students, co-founded an import gourmet food business, was co-owner of a residential real estate brokerage, earned a doctorate degree in Clinical Psychology at the Wright Institute in Berkeley, and worked as a psychotherapist and grief counselor, and with families of the chronically mentally ill. Peter lives and works in Berkeley, California.
We created *Frog’s Rainy-Day Story and Other Fables* as a catalyst for honest family conversations about today’s confusing culture. We hope that our lively characters will become fast friends and everyday teachers of sound values and life lessons to the children and grandchildren of the next generation.

Michael James Dowling, author
Sarah Buell Dowling, illustrator

These eight imaginative and thought-provoking tales teach important truths from God’s Word. Enriched by more than 50 colorful illustrations, this attractive, 72-page hardcover book by a husband and wife team is a keepsake the whole family will enjoy reading again and again.

Glossary helps younger children learn the more challenging words. Parents, grandparents, Christian educators, and church leaders will find this book to be a valuable resource for family devotions, homeschool and small-group studies, and teaching in Christian schools and churches. A “Burrowing Deeper” study guide for children, youth and adults is available at www.FrogsRainyDayStory.com.

“These timeless moral messages will both entertain and convict today’s readers. If there were ever a picture book for all ages——this is it!”

Crystal Bowman, best-selling, award-winning Christian author of 100+ books for children

Written with the whimsy of Aesop, these engaging fables will challenge your family toward deeper thought. The marvelous illustrations will delight children and adults alike and bid them return again and again.

Marty Machowski, Family Life Pastor, author of gospel-focused resources for church and home


8” X 10” / 32 PAGES / FULL-COLOR ILLUSTRATIONS

AVAILABLE NATIONALLY: Bookstores/Libraries/Churches
Ingram Publisher Services • Ingram/Spring Arbor, Baker & Taylor, Follett
At Leading Neighborhood and Online Bookstores
Michael James Dowling is an award-winning author, ghostwriter, and editor, with more than two dozen books to his credit. Prior to starting his professional writing business in 1999, he served for 12 years on the staff of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Charlottesville, VA. Mike holds an MBA from Columbia Business School in New York.

Sarah Buell Dowling is an award-winning artist and illustrator. A graduate of Massachusetts College of Art in Boston, she has continued her studies with many nationally recognized artists. Sarah is the winner of numerous awards for her fine art and for the children's books and toys she has designed.

“Provides powerful insight into the differences between a biblical world-view and the thinking of this world. An excellent book for both children and adults!”

Pamela A. Solvie, Ph.D., Coordinator of Early Childhood Education for the School of Education, and Director of Global Initiatives, University of Northwestern

“Frog’s Rainy-Day Story and Other Fables provides a much-needed worldview wakeup call for critical thinkers of all ages. This clever book is a valuable resource that the church today so desperately needs.”

Kurt A. Brewer, area director with Cru, a Christian ministry to college students

“Brilliantly written and illustrated, Frog’s Rainy-Day Story and Other Fables is sure to delight children while teaching them important life lessons. The text is humorous at times, and the characters are endearing! Perfect for homeschooling families or family devotion times! I’ll be getting a copy for my grandkids. This is a must-have on every parent’s bookshelf.”

Michelle Medlock Adams, award-winning, best-selling children’s author of more than 80+ books

FrogsRainyDayStory.com
“River to Ocean invites us to enter the flow of our lives and open to the boundlessness of who we really are. Drawing inspiration and wisdom from her own journey, Katherine Jansen-Byrkit shares powerful practices that help us navigate the challenges we encounter on a path of transformation.” ~ Tara Brach, PhD, Author of Radical Acceptance

What it Means to Live Wakefully

Katherine Jansen-Byrkit takes readers on a spiritual journey that transforms despair into hope and confusion into clarity toward the ultimate discovery of an awakened self. Utilizing a holistic approach developed over many years as a psychotherapist, she serves as a “river guide”, helping readers navigate their inner and outer worlds wakefully.

Katherine explores nine aspects of wakefulness. These include:

• Befriending Ourselves
• Freedom from the Mind
• True Mindfulness
• Cherishing the Body
• Embracing Death and Dying
• Cultivating Healthy Relationships
• Navigating Our Way

Packed with powerful ideas, practical exercises, and inspiring, real-life Stories from the field to illustrate how these concepts work in the real world, River to Ocean helps readers practice wakefulness as a lived experience, rather than a concept.

6x9 244 pages

Available Nationally:
Bookstores and Libraries: Ingram
Individuals: Favorite online or local bookstore

Katherine Jansen-Byrkit, MPH, LPC is an author, speaker, educator, and Licensed Professional Counselor with over 15 years of clinical experience. She brings a holistic approach to her work with a focus on personal growth, relationship transformation, and embodied wakefulness as part of one’s spiritual path.

“...takes us on a spiritual journey of the soul, a deliberate deep dive into ourselves. The model of this book takes us step-by-step through the most important descriptions of what discovering and awakening to our inner selves is all about.” (excerpt from Foreword)
David J. Kleber, Ph.D, Clinical Psychologist

“I greatly appreciate the depth and breadth of this work and Katherine’s deep care and intention in writing it. This book will be deeply helpful to many; it was already deeply helpful to me.”
Katherine Ann Pagliasotti, LAc, MA, Acupuncturist
“We can shift our perspective and change our world.”

People from all walks of life, men and women, young and old, benefit from living an authentic and transparent life. Perfect Practice offers freedom from thoughts of fear that leave us feeling incomplete. The process of reclaiming our authenticity shifts our perspective. It enables us to expand our capacity, not only for growing, but also for loving. How we perceive life is what motivates how we live. An authentic life is a fulfilling life.

In this book you will learn how to transform:
- Pain into purpose
- Conflict into confidence
- Fear into curiosity

“Our life comes under the control of one or the other—presence in love or escape in fear. Perfect Practice offers us hope by defining the wisdom that pain offers. This wisdom brings with it freedom from our own fearful thoughts. I have been entranced by the many interesting stories, lessons and gems of wisdom scattered throughout this book. I believe you, the reader, will too.”
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“The imagery in this book is vivid and the ideas paradigm shifting. Once I began reading, it was hard to put down.”
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As an author, speaker, and consultant Mary Corning clearly and compassionately models the Perfect Practice process through her messages and stories. As an equine advocate she extends her philosophy into the world of horses where both horses and people benefit from realizing a different way to interpret challenge. Mary Corning is a lifelong resident of the Pacific Northwest where she utilizes her natural environment to enhance her work and her life - the two are synonymous.

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“What a fabulous book! The pictures are amazing, colorful and so cheerful! The text is engaging and will help students and young children develop their own sense of creativity and their imagination. This book should be compulsory for all children! To top it all, a guide helps teachers or parents use the book and provides multiple tasks! Thank you for this lovely story and these ideal tasks! I warmly recommend Annie Imagines!”

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As a retired Dental Hygienist of 34 years, I love the idea of limiting Halloween candy through a fun game format with children, as they figure out ways to outwit the RAT.”

— Patricia Burnett, former dental hygienist and retired school psychologist