

## Silent Letters Loud And Clear

The B on Your Thumb is a book of rhymes and delightful ditties to boost early reading. Each rhyme teaches a particular sound, spelling, or rule, and will delight young children with the silliness of the English language.

"This is that rare audiobook that truly makes the print version come alive. The sound effects alone are priceless, with homage to Grammy Award-winner Bobby McFerrin. If you've ever wondered what punctuation marks sound like, Beach provides hilarious voices and sound effects for each one. A masterful, creative, amusing, must-have production that simplifies the rules of punctuation." -School Library Journal

The members of the Vowel family have a hard time talking until their children, Alan, Ellen, Iris, Otto, and Ursula, are born, and when one of them gets lost one day, it takes their Aunt Cyndy to fix the problem. Test with success using Spectrum Word Study and Phonics for grade 6! The lessons encourage creativity and strengthen phonics skills by focusing on digraphs, diphthongs, syllabication, acronyms, figures of speech, and dictionary skills. The book features full-color illustrations, provides essential tools for achieving reading fluency, and includes an answer key. Today, more than ever, students need to be equipped with the skills required for school achievement and success on proficiency tests. This 168-page book aligns with state and national standards, is perfect for use at home or in school, and is favored by parents, homeschoolers, and teachers.

Jonathan Safran Foer emerged as one of the most original writers of his generation with his best-selling debut novel, *Everything Is Illuminated*. Now, with humor, tenderness, and awe, he confronts the traumas of our recent history. What he discovers is solace in that most human quality, imagination. Meet Oskar Schell, an inventor, Francophile, tambourine player, Shakespearean actor, jeweler, pacifist, correspondent with Stephen Hawking and Ringo Starr. He is nine years old. And he is on an urgent, secret search through the five boroughs of New York. His mission is to find the lock that fits a mysterious key belonging to his father, who died in the World Trade Center on 9/11. An inspired innocent, Oskar is alternately endearing, exasperating, and hilarious as he careens from Central Park to Coney Island to Harlem on his search. Along the way he is always dreaming up inventions to keep those he loves safe from harm. What about a birdseed shirt to let you fly away? What if you could actually hear everyone's heartbeat? His goal is hopeful, but the past speaks a loud warning in stories of those who've lost loved ones before. As Oskar roams New York, he encounters a motley assortment of humanity who are all survivors in their own way. He befriends a 103-year-old war reporter, a tour guide who never leaves the Empire State Building, and lovers enraptured or scorned. Ultimately, Oskar ends his journey where it began, at his father's grave. But now he is accompanied by the silent stranger who has been renting the spare room of his grandmother's apartment. They are there to dig up his father's empty coffin.

When Mr. Wright's students express a dislike for silent letters, the offended letters decide to teach them a lesson by going on strike.

Discusses the reckless annihilation of fish and birds by the use of pesticides and warns of the possible genetic effects on humans.

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • ONE OF TIME MAGAZINE'S 100 BEST YA BOOKS OF ALL TIME The extraordinary, beloved novel about the ability of books to feed the soul even in the darkest of times. When Death has a story to tell, you listen. It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement. In superbly crafted writing that burns with intensity, award-winning author Markus Zusak, author of *I Am the Messenger*, has given us one of the most enduring stories of our time. "The kind of book that can be life-changing." —The New York Times "Deserves a place on the same shelf with *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank." —USA Today DON'T MISS BRIDGE OF CLAY, MARKUS ZUSAK'S FIRST NOVEL SINCE THE BOOK THIEF.

A lonely cockroach named Crickwing has a creative idea that saves the day for the leaf-cutter ants when their fierce forest enemies attack them.

Little e is sure he could be a hero—he even has the cape to prove it! But at school, he is so quiet, he just doesn't stand out. That is, until one day when Little e doesn't show up to class. The other letters don't even notice he's gone at first, but when c, a, and k try to form a word for dessert, they realize that no matter what they do, they can't make it work.

The whole class is in an uproar! Without their silent friend, what are they going to do? Will Little e finally get his chance to come to the rescue? With adorable illustrations, *The Mighty Silent e* teaches spelling and vowel sounds in a new, exciting way that is sure to engage even the most stubborn reader.

Two prankster best friends try to convince their teacher to let them sit together by writing a persuasive essay in this picture book filled with laughter and helpful writing tips. Samir and Jack are in the doghouse after an incident involving a whoopee cushion and an unflattering drawing of the principal. When Miss Doover changes their seats, they decide to write a persuasive essay as a way to convince her to reunite them! As the boys make their best case, Miss Doover walks them through the essay process, insisting on several of her famous do-overs (also known as revisions) and cautioning them to avoid incorrect grammar, hyperbole, and exaggeration. They eventually get the hang of persuasive writing, but not before some laugh-out-loud attempts: I'll die if I can't sit next to Samir! People will be sobbing at my funeral!!! Miss Doover should give Samir and me another chance to sit together. Then we won't have to yell across the room to talk to each other. We promise to be good!!!! (That is true. It is not hyperbole.) Celebrated author Robin Pulver and artist Stephanie Roth Sisson have crafted a persuasively good book about the power of the written word.

Five brothers work harder on their farm than ever before because a big storm is coming. Exhausted after their day, out of nowhere comes a knock at the door. They never get visitors. And who would be out in this kind of weather? Read to find out who it is and what happens next!

With loving adoptive parents by his side, Rev Fletcher has managed to keep the demons of his past at bay. . . until he gets a letter from his abusive father and the trauma of his childhood comes hurtling back. Emma Blue's parents are constantly fighting, and her only escape is the computer game she built from scratch. But when a cruel online troll's harassment escalates, she not only loses confidence but starts to fear for her safety. When Rev and Emma meet, they're both longing to lift the burden of their secrets. They connect instantly and deeply, promising to help each other no matter what. But soon Rev and Emma's secrets threaten to crush them, and they'll need more than a promise to find their way out. From the author of *Letters to the Lost* comes a new compulsively readable story for fans of Nicola Yoon.

Informative text and color illustrations take readers on a trip to the dentist's office in order to help calm their fears through an ABC exploration of what they will find there. From the critically acclaimed author of *Savage Theories* and *Dark Constellations* comes Pola Oloixarac's *Mona*, where success as a "writer of color" proves to be a fresh hell for a young Latin American woman at a literary conference in Sweden. *Mona*, a Peruvian writer based in California, presents a tough and sardonic exterior. She likes drugs and cigarettes, and when she learns that she is something of an anthropological curiosity—a woman writer of color treasured at her university for the flourish of rarefied diversity she brings—she pokes fun at American academic culture and its fixation on identity. When she is nominated for "the most important literary award in Europe," *Mona* sees a chance to escape her downward spiral of sunlit substance abuse and erotic distraction, so she trades the temptations of California for a small, gray village in Sweden, close to the Arctic Circle. Now she is stuck in the company of all her jet-lagged—and mostly male—competitors, arriving from Japan, France, Armenia, Iran, and Colombia. Isolated as they are, the writers do what writers do: exchange compliments, nurse envy and private resentments, stab rivals in the back, and hop in bed together. All the while, *Mona* keeps stumbling across the mysterious traces of a violence she cannot explain. As her adventures in Scandinavia unfold, *Mona* finds that she has not so much escaped her demons as locked herself up with them in the middle of nowhere. In *Mona*, Pola Oloixarac paints a hypnotic, scabrous, and ultimately jaw-dropping portrait of a woman facing down a hipster elite to which she does and does not belong. A survivor of both patronization and bizarre sexual encounters, *Mona* is a new kind of feminist. But her past won't stay past, and strange forces are working to deliver her the test of a lifetime.

Meet *Roxy*. For fans of *Where'd You Go, Bernadette* and *Bridget Jones's Diary* comes "just the kind of comic novel we need right now" (*The Washington Post*) about an Austin artist trying to figure out her life one letter to her ex-boyfriend at a time. *Bridget Jones* penned a diary; *Roxy* writes letters. Specifically: she writes letters to her hapless, rent-avoidant ex-boyfriend—and current roommate—Everett. This charming and funny twenty-something is under-employed (and under-romanced), and she's decidedly fed up with the indignities she endures as a deli maid at *Whole Foods* (the original), and the dismaying speed at which her beloved Austin is becoming corporatized. When a new *Lululemon* pops up at the intersection of Sixth and Lamar where the old *Waterloo Video* used to be, *Roxy* can stay silent no longer. As her letters to Everett become less about overdue rent and more about the state of her life, *Roxy* realizes she's ready to be the heroine of her own story. She decides to team up with her two best friends to save Austin—and rescue *Roxy's* love life—in whatever way they can. But can this spunky, unforgettable millennial keep Austin weird, avoid arrest, and find romance—and even creative inspiration—in the process? With timely themes and hilarious, laugh-out-loud moments, *Roxy Letters* is a smart and clever story that is "bursting with originality, quirky wit, and delightful charm" (*Hannah Orenstein*, author of *Playing with Matches*).

Jack learns the value of revision as he practices Miss Doover's lesson on how to write a proper thank-you note.

There's only one reason that snow never closes school in Burskyville: school bus driver extraordinaire, Axle Annie. She puts the pedal to the metal and gets the bus up the snowy hills every time. Of course, not everyone appreciates her efforts, and heading that list is fellow bus driver Shifty Rhodes, who hooks up with a local ski resort to trip up Annie. Full-color illustrations.

Baked Alaska, melba toast, hush puppies, and coconuts. You'd be surprised at how these food names came to be. And have you ever wondered why we use the expression "selling like hotcakes"? Or how about "spill the beans"? There are many fascinating and funny stories about the language of food--and the food hidden in our language! Charlotte Foltz Jones has compiled a feast of her favorite anecdotes, and John O'Brien's delightfully pun-filled drawings provide the dessert. Bon appetit!

When Mr. Wright makes his students study word endings on the last day of school, even the suffixes rebel.

The author of "A Long and Happy Life" and "Kate Vaiden" offers a memoir of his small-town Southern childhood, sketching vivid portraits of those who shaped him

It's winter, and a lonely abandoned kitten is trying to survive in the woods. Each night, as he hunts for food, the warm glow of houses fills him with longing. While a family carries in its Christmas tree, the kitten slips into their house.

Santa and Mrs. Claus must rush to find a home for a foundling kitten named Cookie. Santa would love to keep the kitten, but he's allergic—and there's a little girl out there with the perfect home. Readers familiar with *Pulver's Christmas for a Kitten* will delight in *Cookie's* further Christmas Eve adventures.

When Mrs. Toggle's zipper sticks and traps her inside her coat, everyone in the school tries to free her but with little success.

Capital letters are being so neglected in Mr. Wright's classroom that they are nearly incapacitated, and a medical team must be summoned to perform CPR-- Capital Posture Repair.

When Eli and his father visit an unusual zoo, Eli keeps track of the numbers of animals and soon sees there is a pattern that will predict how many creatures are in the next exhibit. Includes an activity and facts about number sequences.

Can learning about punctuation really be fun? You bet--in *Elsa Knight Bruno's Punctuation Celebration*, featuring illustrations by Jenny Whitehead Punctuation marks come alive in this clever picture book featuring fourteen playful poems. Periods stop sentences in a baker's shop, commas help a train slow down, quotation marks tell people what to do, and colons stubbornly introduce lists. This appealing primer is a surefire way to make punctuation both accessible and fun for kids.

Squirrel promises to divide her pie into sections to share with her animal friends if she wins the pie contest.

Let's Read Together books merge rhyme and vowel sounds in delightfully zany stories kids will want to read again and again. Each of the 15 books in this classic series by award-winning author/educator *Barbara deRubertis* will give your child a jumpstart on reading success. "Story lines are silly and inventive, and recall *Dr. Seuss's Cat in the Hat*

