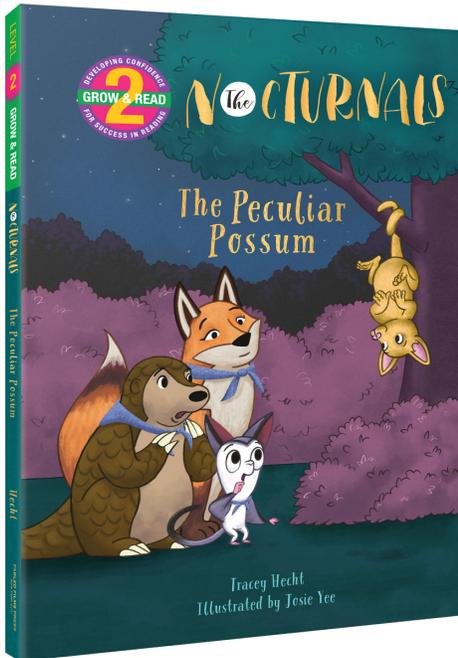


FABLED FILMS

NEW YORK CITY

New Grow & Read Early Reader Book Encourages Children to Respect Differences and Be Proud to be Unique



New York, NY, October 2018—Fabled Films Press—the imprint of Fabled Films, a children’s media and entertainment company—is excited to announce *The Peculiar Possum*, the third book of the established Grow & Read Program, by author Tracey Hecht. This early reader encourages children to respect differences in others and be proud of their own distinctive characteristics.

In *The Peculiar Possum* (HC, \$12.99, October 2018), the Nocturnal Brigade—Dawn, a serious fox; Tobin, a sweet pangolin; and Bismark, the loudmouthed, pint-sized sugar glider—encounter a strange animal hanging by its tail from a tree. At first, they think this animal is weird, speaks a strange language, and should be avoided, but after learning more about Penny the possum, they realize just how similar they all are. The story is told with plenty of humor while underscoring the importance of respecting differences in others—a key lesson for children in this age group.

“I wrote this book to help unify our communities as they become more diverse,” says author Tracey Hecht. “I believe it’s important to teach children from a young age that it’s OK to look, behave, and speak differently than one another. I wanted to engage young readers in a story about tolerance, understanding, and friendship.”

In writing the books, Hecht uses a storytelling style that incorporates phonetic sound and alliteration to help the reader learn unfamiliar sounds and patterns of letters to gain new vocabulary. Book three also introduces new languages to young readers via a language glossary, which includes five words translated into Arabic, French, Mandarin, Portuguese, and Spanish. The glossary will encourage children who are beginning independent reading or children enrolled in ELL and ESL programs to learn about new languages with their families or in school. Hecht will incorporate this book into the ongoing Nocturnals’ Read Aloud Writing Program, which was created in partnership with the New York Public Library and has been used nationwide in over seventy schools, libraries, and bookstores.

The Grow & Read Early Reader Program was developed with free online printable storytime activities, including sight word games, coloring pages, an animal mask craft, a Common Core Language Arts Guide, story and character maps, and more. The activities help strengthen emerging readers’ understanding of the books while instilling confidence and a lifelong interest in reading. The Grow & Read Program has two critically acclaimed Level 2 readers in the series, *The Moonlight Meeting* and *The Slithery Shakedown*. To learn more about phonics in early education, Fabled Films Press has aggregated resources on GrowAndRead.com.

For a review copy or more information, or to set up an interview with the author, contact: Gisselle Guillén, Fabled Films Press, Gisselle.Guillen@fabledfilms.com, 212-951-1936.

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NEW YORK CITY

Grow & Read Book 3: The Peculiar Possum

Author: Tracey Hecht | Illustrator: Josie Yee

ISBN: 978-1-944020-19-4

Trim Size: 6 x 9 | Page Count: 64, with 64 full-color illustrations throughout

Price: \$12.99 | Grades: 1–2

Grow & Read Book 2: The Slithery Shakedown

Author: Tracey Hecht | Illustrator: Josie Yee

ISBN: 978-1-944020-17-0

Trim Size: 6 x 9 | Page Count: 64, with 64 full-color illustrations throughout

Price: \$12.99 | Grades: 1–2 | Fountas & Pinnell M | Lexile 440L

Grow & Read Book 1: The Moonlight Meeting

Author: Tracey Hecht and Rumur Dowling | Illustrator: Waymond Singleton

ISBN: 978-1-944020-15-6

Trim Size: 6 x 9 | Page Count: 64, with 54 full-color illustrations throughout

Price: \$12.99 | Grades: 1–2 | Fountas & Pinnell L | Lexile 480L

Consortium Book Sales & Distribution, a member of the Ingram Distribution Companies, will continue to handle sales and distribution.

FABLED FILMS PRESS CREATIVE TEAM



ABOUT TRACEY HECHT: Tracey Hecht, founder of Fabled Films, is a writer and entrepreneur who has written, directed, and produced for film. Fabled Films brings together her passions and interests: writing, creativity, teamwork, and entrepreneurship. In partnership with the New York Public Library, Tracey created a Read Aloud Writing Program that she has since conducted—both in person and virtually—in over seventy schools, libraries, and bookstores across the country. Tracey has also been a panelist for the American Booksellers Association’s ABC Children’s Institute, speaking on how to run successful virtual author visits. She currently splits her time between New York City and Oquossoc, Maine, with her husband, four children, and puppy, Penny.



ABOUT JOSIE YEE: Josie Yee is an award-winning illustrator and graphic artist specializing in children’s publishing. She received her BFA from Arizona State University and studied illustration at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. She lives in New York City with her daughter, Ana, and their cat, Dude. This is her second book with Fabled Films Press.

ABOUT FABLED FILMS PRESS: Fabled Films Press is a media and entertainment company. It is a subsidiary of Fabled Films and a member of the American Booksellers Association and the Children’s Book Council. Using a combination of original content creation, high quality production, and impactful distribution channels, Fabled Films Press properties connect across generations of parents and their children. Each property is supported with additional content in the forms of animated web series and social media as well as websites featuring activities for children, parents, bookstores, educators, and librarians. Fabled Films Press was a featured program at the 2018 American Library Association’s annual conference on running successful virtual visits.

Connect with Fabled Films and *The Nocturnals*:

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