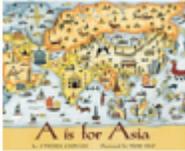
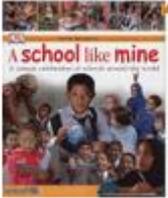
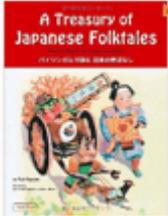
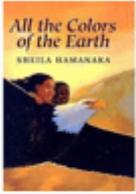
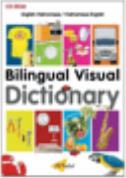
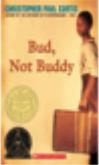


BOOK TITLE	BRIEF SYNOPSIS	GRADES
<p data-bbox="300 334 464 358">“A is for Asia”</p> 	<p data-bbox="640 334 1598 602">“From the Middle East to northern Siberia, to China, Japan, and the Pacific Islands, the diversity of this vast continent is captured in childlike, stylized illustrations and 26 well-chosen words. Jade, kites, the monsoon, pandas, the Qur’an, water buffalo, and Zen are among the terms described in a decorative calligraphic type and pictured in gaily colored, naive, nonperspective drawings. Author and illustrator have created an attractive alphabet book that is useful for introducing Asia as a place of many different cultures, customs, languages, and climates” (School Library Journal).</p>	<p data-bbox="1633 334 1787 399">Kindergarten- Grade 3</p>
<p data-bbox="300 685 541 709">“A School Like Mine”</p> 	<p data-bbox="640 685 1587 831">“A mind-broadening journey to classrooms around the world, this unique celebration of the commonalities and differences between school days in different countries will enrich knowledge and delight imagination as kids share in the experiences of their peers around the world” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p data-bbox="1633 685 1797 709">Grade 3 and up</p>
<p data-bbox="300 1037 562 1102">“A Treasury of Japanese Folktales”</p> 	<p data-bbox="640 1037 1577 1265">“<i>A Treasury of Japanese Folktales</i>, presented in both English and Japanese, contains 12 of the best Japanese folk and fairy tales, told to generation after generation of Japanese children. These charming tales of rich imagination carry us, on turtle-back, to the splendors of the underwater palace of the dragon princess, to the beautiful hills where Kintaro plays with his animal friends, and to a temple where we discover a “tea kettle” that is really a cunning badger in disguise.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p data-bbox="1633 1037 1776 1102">Kindergarten and up</p>

<p>“All the Colors of the Earth”</p> 	<p>“A poetic picture book and an exemplary work of art. The simple text describes children’s skin tones and hair in terms of natural phenomena (“...the roaring browns of bears”; “...hair that curls like sleeping cats in snoozy cat colors”) and then describes love for these children with rich colors and flavors (“...love comes in cinnamon, walnut, and wheat...”). Hamanaka’s oil paintings are all double-page spreads filled with the colors of earth, sky, and water, and the texture of the artist’s canvas shines through. The text is arranged in undulant waves across each painting (School Library Journal).</p>	<p>Grades 1-4</p>
<p>“Anansi the Spider”</p> 	<p>“Anansi the Spider is a wise, funny, mischievous, and loveable folk hero who pops up in traditional Ashanti tales from Ghana, in West Africa. This story, retold and illustrated by Gerald McDermott, relates the tale of father Anansi and his six spider sons. When Anansi sets out on a dangerous journey and gets into all sorts of trouble, each son does one thing to help, and all their efforts together save their father. He finds a mysterious, beautiful globe of light in the forest, and decides to make it a gift of thanks. But which son should receive the prize? Even with the help of Nyame, the God of All Things, he can’t decide, so Nyame takes the great globe up into the sky, and that’s where it has stayed ever since—the moon, for all to see. This profound story reaches children of many ages; younger ones see it as an exciting rescue story, but older children are intrigued by the larger themes of cooperation and “the whole being more than its parts.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 3</p>
<p>“Art Projects from Around the World”</p> 	<p>“Bring art into the classroom with 20 engaging projects that connect to social studies topics! Each project reflects the culture or geography of a different country, such as woven paper Kente cloth from Ghana and 3-D tree frogs from the rain forests of Brazil. Includes step-by-step directions and 8 full-color pages showing sample projects.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Grades 1-3</p>

<p>“Bilingual Visual Dictionary”</p> 	<p>“A resource for young learners, this series of bilingual visual dictionaries comes in a CD-ROM format to help children add to their vocabulary. Useful, everyday words are grouped into subjects so that children can focus on one set of related words at a time, while games such as word searches, jumbles, and matches help make learning fun. By clicking on a picture, users can hear the word pronounced in two languages, making this an ideal learning tool for both individual use and classroom settings.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten and up</p>
<p>“Borreguita and the Coyote”</p> 	<p>“Borreguita, which means simply “little lamb,” lives at the foot of a mountain. When her owner takes Borreguita out to eat in a field of lush, red clover, she is approached by a coyote who has lunch in mind. How this crafty lamb fools the coyote forms the base of this stylish retelling of a tale from Ayutla, Mexico. Aardema’s language is simple and direct, allowing readers or listeners to be in on what Boreguita is up to long before the coyote catches on. Mathers’s watercolors are the perfect complement, bright in pallete and granting expressiveness to both the coyote and his nemesis. Certain of her illustrations are reminiscent of Rousseau in the use of light and primitive forms, but Mathers always retains a light touch. Large enough in format to share at storytimes, this is a perfect introduction to Mexican folklore, and a great alternative to that other renowned coyote baiter, Beep Beep the Roadrunner.” (School Library Journal)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 3</p>
<p>“Bud, Not Buddy”</p> 	<p>“As in his Newbery Honor-winning debut, The Watsons Go to BirminghamA1963, Curtis draws on a remarkable and disarming mix of comedy and pathos, this time to describe the travails and adventures of a 10-year-old African-American orphan in Depression-era Michigan. Bud is fed up with the cruel treatment he has received at various foster homes, and after being locked up for the night in a shed with a swarm of angry hornets, he decides to run away. His goal: to reach the man he believes to be his father, jazz musician Herman E. Calloway. Relying on his own ingenuity and good luck, Bud makes it to Grand Rapids, where his “father” owns a club. Calloway, who is much older and grouchier than</p>	<p>Grade 3 and up</p>

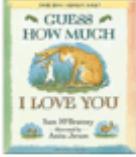
	<p>Bud imagined, is none too thrilled to meet a boy claiming to be his long-lost son. It is the other members of his band Steady Eddie, Mr. Jimmy, Doug the Thug, Doo-Doo Bug Cross, Dirty Deed Breed and motherly Miss Thomas who make Bud feel like he has finally arrived home. While the grim conditions of the times and the harshness of Bud’s circumstances are authentically depicted, Curtis shines on them an aura of hope and optimism. And even when he sets up a daunting scenario, he makes readers laugh for example, mopping floors for the rejecting Calloway, Bud pretends the mop is “that underwater boat in the book Momma read to me, Twenty Thousand Leaks Under the Sea.” Bud’s journey, punctuated by Dickensian twists in plot and enlivened by a host of memorable personalities, will keep readers engrossed from first page to last.” (Publishers Weekly)</p>	
<p>“Children Around the World: The Ultimate</p> 	<p>“Take students in grades PK–2 on a field trip without leaving the classroom using Children Around the World: The Ultimate Class Field Trip! This 160-page book includes cross-curricular activities that foster social and cultural awareness through reading, writing, math, large and small motor activities, science experiments, art projects, dramatic play, and cooking. Students keep journals, collect pictures and postcards, and map their journeys. This book supports NCSS standards.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten- grade 2</p>
<p>“Cora Cooks Pancit”</p> 	<p>“Cora loves being in the kitchen, but she always gets stuck doing the kid jobs like licking the spoon. One day, however, when her older sisters and brother head out, Cora finally gets the chance to be Mama’s assistant chef. And of all the delicious Filipino dishes that dance through Cora’s head, she and Mama decide to make pancit, her favorite noodle dish. With Mama’s help, Cora does the grown-up jobs like shredding the chicken and soaking the noodles (perhaps Mama won’t notice if she takes a nibble of chicken or sloshes a little water on the floor). Cora even gets to stir the noodles in the pot carefully—while Mama supervises. When dinner is finally served, her siblings find out that Cora did all their grown-up tasks, and Cora waits anxiously to see what everyone thinks of her</p>	<p>Kindergarten and up</p>

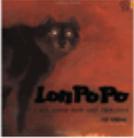
	<p>cooking. Dorina Lazo Gilmore’s text delightfully captures the warmth between mother and daughter as they share a piece of their Filipino heritage. With bright and charming illustrations by Kristi Valiant, Cora’s family comes alive as Cora herself becomes the family’s newest little chef.” (Amazon Review)</p>	
<p>“Coyote: A Trickster Tale from the American Southwest”</p> 	<p>“A short, uncomplicated story in which Coyote decides he wants to fly with the crows. They humor him, give him feathers, and tolerate his off key singing and out-of-step dancing, until he begins to boast and order them about. Then, as Coyote struggles in midair, they take back their feathers one by one and he plummets to earth. His tail catches fire, and he tumbles into the dirt. To this day he is the color of dust and his tail has a burnt, black tip. The full-page illustrations, executed in gouache, colored pencil, and pastels, are brilliantly colored, with bold patterns, angular forms, and orange backgrounds. Children will enjoy the visual portrayal of Coyote, who is blue, vain, eager, and heedless of consequences, and they will laugh at the pictures of the various troubles he gets himself into at the start of the book. Although the art communicates Coyote’s vivid personality, the story is not as charming as some of McDermott’s other trickster tales. There is less cleverness, humor, and buoyancy, and more antagonism, in this story. Coyote is a troublemaker, of course, but his antics often make readers laugh. Also, he seems less fully realized than some of the author’s previous characters. Still, the book provides an introduction to an important folklore character and is strikingly illustrated. There are no notes on the story’s source, but McDermott does provide a note on Coyote and refers to the people of the Pueblo of Zuni as excelling in telling Coyote tales.” (School Library Journal)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 2</p>
<p>“Esperanza Rising”</p>	<p>“Ryan uses the experiences of her own Mexican grandmother as the basis for this compelling story of immigration and assimilation, not only to a new country but also into a different social class. Esperanza’s expectation that her 13th birthday will be celebrated with all the material pleasures and folk elements of her previous years is shattered when</p>	<p>Grades 3 and up</p>

	<p>her father is murdered by bandits. His powerful stepbrothers then hold her mother as a social and economic hostage, wanting to force her remarriage to one of them, and go so far as to burn down the family home. Esperanza’s mother then decides to join the cook and gardener and their son as they move to the United States and work in California’s agricultural industry. They embark on a new way of life, away from the uncles, and Esperanza unwillingly enters a world where she is no longer a princess but a worker. Set against the multiethnic, labor-organizing era of the Depression, the story of Esperanza remaking herself is satisfyingly complete, including dire illness and a difficult romance. Except for the evil uncles, all of the characters are rounded, their motives genuine, with class issues honestly portrayed. Easy to booktalk, useful in classroom discussions, and accessible as pleasure reading, this well-written novel belongs in all collections.” (School Library Journal)</p>	
<p>“Father’s Rubber Shoes”</p> 	<p>“Yungsu is having trouble adjusting to his new home in the United States. His father, busy running the store, doesn’t have time to play, and Yungsu misses his friends back in Korea. Father tries to ease the situation by sharing a story from his childhood, about a special pair of shoes. “I want to give you something like my rubber shoes, but something you can have all the time,” Father says. “That’s why we’re here. I hope you understand.” Following this tender exchange, things begin to look better to Yungsu. Heo (One Afternoon) has wrapped the universal feelings of upheaval, alienation and homesickness that accompany any move around a story of one family’s immigrant experience. In a subplot of sorts, she spotlights a traditional Korean dish, bulgogi, thereby providing authentic ethnic detail. Heo’s oil-and-pencil paintings, rendered in predominantly warm orange and yellow hues, feature a cast of stylized human figures with rotund torsos and tiny feet. Her skillful compositions make use of varying perspectives, giving readers a bird’s-eye view, an extreme close up or a spread that’s slightly askew, with objects floating in the background. In this smorgasbord of settings, the gentle-looking characters seem all the more expressive. (Publishers Weekly)</p>	<p>Kindergarten and up</p>

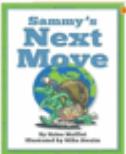
<p>“Filipino Children’s Favorite Stories”</p> 	<p>“A compilation of 13 short folktales, many of them classics of the Filipino culture. Many of the themes are universal in nature. Tales of greed and laziness and their consequences, nature’s ways, family love and loyalty, and humorous trickster tales are all included. Many of the selections have counterparts from other cultures. “The Deer and the Snail” is a “Tortoise and the Hare” variant, and children will recognize “The Prince’s Bride” as “Beauty and the Beast” with a twist. Others are quite different, such as “Why Mosquitoes Buzz Around Our Ears,” which is surprisingly unlike the well-known African tale. “The Battle of the Sea and Sky” is a particularly nice telling of the creation of the Philippine Islands. Each story is accompanied by de Leon’s ink-and-watercolor illustrations. The artist has subtly paid tribute to the diversity of the islands by using a variety of styles in the costume, suggestive of the different regions. A lovely addition to folklore collections.” (School Library Journal)</p>	<p>Kindergarten and up</p>
<p>“Filipino Friends”</p> 	<p>“Through the eyes of Sam, a Filipino-American boy visiting the Philippines for the very first time, children will learn about Philippine customs and language. Soft, whimsical watercolors labeled with English words and Filipino translations bring to light the differences between Western and Philippine lifestyles. Children of expatriate Filipinos as well as expatriate children living in the Philippines will find <i>Filipino Friends</i> indispensable in bridging the gap between the two cultures.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Grade 1 and up</p>
<p>“Grandfather’s Journey”</p> 	<p>“Say transcends the achievements of his <i>Tree of Cranes</i> and <i>A River Dream</i> with this breathtaking picture book, at once a very personal tribute to his grandfather and a distillation of universally shared emotions. Elegantly honed text accompanies large, formally composed paintings to convey Say’s family history; the sepia tones and delicately faded colors of the art suggest a much-cherished and carefully preserved family album. A portrait of Say’s grandfather opens the book, showing him in traditional Japanese dress, “a young man when he left his home in Japan and went to see the world.” Crossing the Pacific on a steamship, he arrives in North America and explores the land by</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 3</p>

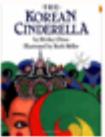
	<p>train, by riverboat and on foot. One especially arresting, light-washed painting presents Grandfather in shirtsleeves, vest and tie, holding his suit jacket under his arm as he gazes over a prairie: “The endless farm fields reminded him of the ocean he had crossed.” Grandfather discovers that “the more he traveled, the more he longed to see new places,” but he nevertheless returns home to marry his childhood sweetheart. He brings her to California, where their daughter is born, but her youth reminds him inexorably of his own, and when she is nearly grown, he takes the family back to Japan. The restlessness endures: the daughter cannot be at home in a Japanese village; he himself cannot forget California. Although war shatters Grandfather’s hopes to revisit his second land, years later Say repeats the journey: “I came to love the land my grandfather had loved, and I stayed on and on until I had a daughter of my own.” The internal struggle of his grandfather also continues within Say, who writes that he, too, misses the places of his childhood and periodically returns to them. The tranquility of the art and the powerfully controlled prose underscore the profundity of Say’s themes, investing the final line with an abiding, aching pathos: “The funny thing is, the moment I am in one country, I am homesick for the other.” (Publishers Weekly)</p>	
<p>“Grandpa, Is Everything Black Bad?”</p> 	<p>“Montsho, a young African-American boy, is concerned: black cats are bad luck, witches wear black, the bad characters are in black on television, etc. When he poses the question to his Grandpa, “Is everything black bad?” the man reassures his grandson that it isn’t so and takes him into a special room that looks like an African kingdom. While beating a drum, he recites a poem that relates their full and rich cultural background. The book ends with Grandpa saying that “the dark color of your skin and your African heritage is a good thing, a very good thing indeed.” Eye-pleasing watercolor-and-ink illustrations wash over each page, adroitly depicting the child’s concerns, the characters, and the African images. The message is obviously worthwhile and important, but the text is at times heavy-handed. This aside, the title is worth reading and sharing, and will be especially of value in classrooms emphasizing cultural awareness.” (School Library Journal)</p>	<p>Grades 1-4-</p>

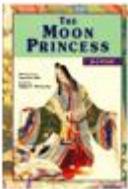
<p>“Guess How Much I Love You”</p> 	<p>“Guess how much kids will love this! The original family classic is now available in a fresh new hardcover featuring embossing on the cover — and a new, larger trim size, making it perfect for lap sharing. During a bedtime game, every time Little Nutbrown Hare demonstrates how much he loves his father, Big Nutbrown Hare gently shows him that the love is returned even more.” (Barnes &amp; Noble Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten and up</p>
<p>“Ho’omāmalama”</p> 	<p>“Learn Hawaiian words and numbers, practice your pronunciation, locate hidden objects, then test your newfound skills with a word puzzle. Each page includes a vocabulary list, pronunciation guide, activity, and English translation.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten and up</p>
<p>“I’m Like You, You’re Like Me”</p> 	<p>“A didactic book that deals with differences and similarities among all people. The message is important, but the text is somewhat repetitive and tedious. The bold, bright-bordered illustrations feature cartoonlike children of various ethnic backgrounds. Each attribute, depicted in pen and marker on posterboard, covers a two-page spread. Fleeting references are made to common concepts such as acceptance of differences, the importance of understanding through listening, thinking about the feelings of others, and accomplishing tasks through cooperation.” (School Library Journal)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 3</p>
<p>“Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China”</p>	<p>“This version of the Red Riding Hood story from Young (The Emperor and the Kite ; Cats Are Cats ; Yeh-Shen) features three daughters left at home when their mother goes to visit their grandmother. Lon Po Po, the Granny Wolf, pretends to be the girls’ grandmother, until clever Shang, the eldest daughter, suspects the greedy wolf’s real</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 3</p>

	<p>identity. Tempting him with ginkgo nuts, the girls pull him in a basket to the top of the tree in which they are hiding, then let go of the rope—killing him. One of Young’s most arresting illustrations accompanies his dedication: “To all the wolves of the world for lending their good name as a tangible symbol for our darkness.” Like ancient Oriental paintings, the illustrations are frequently grouped in panels. When the girls meet the wolf, e.g., the left panel focuses on their wary faces peering out from the darkness, the middle enlarges the evil wolf’s eye and teeth, and the third is a vivid swirl of the blue clothes in which the wolf is disguised. The juxtaposition of abstract and realistic representations, the complicated play of color and shadow, and the depth of the artist’s vision all help transform this simple fairy tale into an extraordinary and powerful book. (Publishers Weekly)</p>	
<p>“Molly’s Pilgrim”</p> 	<p>“Molly, a young Russian Jewish immigrant, feels that she doesn’t belong and will never belong in America. Her third grade classmates make fun of her accent, her dress, her customs and mock her with a sing-song rhyme, “Jol-ly Mol-ly, Your eyes are awf’ly small. Jol-ly Mol-ly, Your nose is awf’ly tall.” With the help of a loving mother and the understanding of a sensitive teacher, Molly earns class recognition and, finally, happiness. Her clothespin Pilgrim doll resembles her Russian mother more than a traditional Pilgrim, for her mother is indeed a pilgrim who came to America for religious freedom. Christina Moore’s dramatic reading intensifies the emotion and evokes the pathos of this moving narrative. Young listeners will sympathize and empathize with Molly and will gain a greater appreciation for all Pilgrims in America. This story will encourage dialogue and lively discussions on numerous topics: American values, tolerance, religious freedom, Thanksgiving traditions, Jewish customs and holidays. It will captivate an attentive audience every month of the year.” (School Library Journal)</p>	<p>Grades 1-3</p>
<p>“My Diary from Here to</p>	<p>“The team behind My Very Own Room/Mi propio cuartito again takes its inspiration from an event in the author’s childhood, this time exploring the feelings of a Mexican girl on</p>	<p>Grade 1 and up</p>

<p>There”</p> 	<p>the verge of starting a new life in Los Angeles. While the rest of the family proclaims excitement at their imminent move (“They have escalators to ride!” says one of her five brothers), Amada confides her fears to her journal: “Am I the only one who is scared of leaving our home, our beautiful country, and all the people we might never see again?” Her father tells her, “You are stronger than you think,” but Amada isn’t sure. In the end, she indeed discovers her strength, as well as a way to keep beloved friends and relatives back in Mexico “in my memories and in my heart.” Perez sensitively explores her protagonist’s emotional journey, peppering the narrative with details of specific moments- Amada’s last walk in the park with her best friend, an uncle’s magic trick to keep up the children’s spirits. Gonzalez’s color-saturated vignettes unfold against eye-catching backdrops of turquoise, yellow, green and purple, and the sweeping brush strokes and bold, slightly stylized features of her characters lend the pages a folk art feel. English and Spanish versions of the text are cleanly worked into the compositions.” (Publishers Weekly)</p>	
<p>“Raven: A Trickster Tale from the American Northwest”</p> 	<p>“All the world is in darkness at the beginning of this traditional tale from the Indian cultures of the Pacific Northwest. Raven feels sorry for the people living in the gloomy cold, so he flies to the house of the Sky Chief in search of light and warmth. To get inside, Raven pulls a shape-shifting trick that allows him to be born to the god’s daughter. As a spoiled and comic infant, Raven demands and gets the shiny ball that the gods have hidden away. The art and text capture the spirit of the Native American trickster hero; benevolent, clever, magical, unscrupulous, and ultimately triumphant, Raven acts out human virtues and foibles on a cosmic scale. The mixed-media illustrations contrast the foggy cold of the Northwest Coast with the cozy interior of a native plank house. Traditional dress, furnishings, and house construction are clearly depicted, as are the tender and indulgent emotions of the Sky Chief and his family. As Raven shape-shifts through the story, visual and verbal clues let children see that his essential nature remains intact. The book invites comparisons with other trickster heroes like Africa’s Anansi and the Native American Coyote, as well as with stories of fire bringers like Prometheus. The</p>	<p>Grade 1 and up</p>

	<p>physical environment, oral literature, and traditional life of the Pacific Coast Indians come alive in this amusing and well-conceived picture book.” (School Library Journal)</p>	
<p>“Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes”</p> 	<p>“The touching story of a terminally ill girl is recreated in this audio version of the book by Eleanor Coerr (Puffin, 1977). Based on the true story of a young Japanese girl who contracts leukemia as a result of the atom bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima, the story follows Sadako as a healthy schoolgirl winning relay races, through her diagnosis with the atom bomb sickness, to her long stay in the hospital. It is in the hospital that she first begins making origami cranes to pass the time. Her ultimate goal is to make 1000, but she dies with only 644 completed. Sadako’s classmates finish making the remaining cranes, and all 1000 are buried with her. Read by Christina Moore, the recording has excellent narration and sound quality and is particularly notable for the children’s voices. Moore uses subtle nuances to distinguish between characters, and conveys a sense of Sadako’s gentle spirit and courage. The recording is further enriched at the end by an interesting biography of Eleanor Coerr that explains how the author came to write Sadako’s story. Schools and public libraries will benefit from adding this recording to their collections.” (School Library Journal)</p>	<p>Grades 2-6</p>
<p>“Sammy’s Next Move”</p> 	<p>“Sammy’s Next Move is a wonderful story about a snail named Sammy who lives around the world with his parents. He is a ‘third culture kid’, TCK or global nomad. He often moves to new countries and has to change schools and make new friends. Sammy experiences the feelings and thoughts common to children in similar situations. Sammy is a snail and so he carries his home with him wherever he goes, just as a third culture kid does by knowing that home is where their heart is!” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten and up</p>
<p>“Swimmy”</p>	<p>“Deep in the sea there lives a happy school of little fish. Their watery world is full of wonders, but there is also danger, and the little fish are afraid to come out of hiding . . .</p>	<p>Kindergarten</p>

	<p>until Swimmy comes along. Swimmy shows his friends how—with ingenuity and team work—they can overcome any danger. With its graceful text and stunning artwork, this Caldecott Honor Book deserves a place on every child’s shelf.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>and up</p>
<p>“The Korean Cinderella”</p> 	<p>“Conflating several Korean variants of Cinderella, this story is “at once comfortingly familiar and intriguingly exotic,” said PW, with “lavish” and extensively researched art.” (Publishers Weekly)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 4</p>
<p>“The Mission of Detective Mike Moving Abroad”</p> 	<p>“Mike is unsettled. He knows that something odd is happening at home because his parents are whispering all the time. But, being a detective, Mike is quickly on the case. He enlists his friend Ikem to help him get to the bottom of the mystery. Mike and his family are moving to another country, making him confused and fearful. What will happen to his toys, his room, his friends, his house? How will he learn to talk in a new language and how will he ever make new friends? As his mission gathers momentum, Mike and Ikem find the answers to his questions and solutions to his problems. One of the authors is a psychologist, both are experienced expatriates, parents, storytellers and interculturalists. The Mission of Detective Mike: Moving Abroad will allay the fears of every relocating family member as this sensitive story, written in words and terms that make sense to young children, shares rock solid strategies and advice that anyone will find easy to apply.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Grade 1 and up</p>
<p>“The Moon Princess”</p>	<p>An old bamboo cutter finds a tiny child in the hollow of a bamboo stalk. Thus begins the beloved story of the <i>Moon Princess</i>, whose unearthly beauty brings her fame and would-</p>	<p>Grade 1 and up</p>

	<p>be husbands from throughout the land, but whose destiny shines far off in the sky. The delicate color and detail of Kancho Oda’s illustrations, painted over half a century ago, create a mood of charm and mystery, admirably accompanied by the lilting verse of writer, translator, and lyricist Ralph F. McCarthy.</p>	
<p>“The Rabbit’s Tail: A Story from Korea”</p> 	<p>“An uproarious tangled tale from Han (The Rabbit’s Judgment, 1994, etc.) that works, because it retains the natural and spontaneous inventiveness of its folk origins. Long ago when “tigers smoked pipes and rabbits had long tails” a tiger wanders into a farmer’s barnyard to nab some dinner. Inside, the tiger overhears a mother trying to quiet her wailing baby: first she threatens that a fierce tiger might overhear the noisy child, and then she offers it a bit of dried persimmon to suck on. That quiets the baby, but the eavesdropping tiger comes away with the information that the dried persimmon must be fiercer, scarier, and stronger than he is. Later, a thief who’s also casing the barnyard lands on the tiger’s back; the tiger is frantic, believing that a dreadful dried persimmon is clinging to his fur. When a skeptical rabbit who hears the tiger’s story goes to investigate the monstrous dried persimmon, he also gets a scare and loses his tail. The twists and turns of the plot are conveyed with energy, while Wehrman’s conjuring of the persimmon into an all-powerful entity helps readers sympathize with the tiger’s fears. A story-hour gem.” (Kirkus Reviews)</p>	<p>Grade 1 and up</p>
<p>“The Stonecutter”</p> 	<p>“In long-ago China, a stonecutter, who dreams of being rich, is granted his wish by an angel. But the greedy stonecutter continues to wish for more. Each time, the angel grants his wish—until one wish too many teaches him a valuable lesson. Demi’s richly ornate illustrations perfectly complement her rendition of an old Chinese folk tale.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten and up</p>

<p>“The Tiger and the Dried Persimmon”</p> 	<p>“A sparkling incarnation of a Korean folk tale. A very hungry tiger finds an ox ready for the taking. He’s stopped cold, however, by the howling of a baby inside the farmhouse. The mother tries to shush the child, telling him he might wake a bear or tiger, but the tiger notes the baby is not deterred. When the mother offers a piece of dried persimmon, the child instantly stops crying, so Tiger figures “dried persimmon” must be a fearsome beast indeed. Just as he is trying to sneak away, a thief who has also come to steal the ox leaps upon him, thinking the tiger is the ox. The tiger, thinking the thief is the feared persimmon, runs away, trying to shake him off. Finally the thief frees himself by grabbing onto a tree limb, and promises no more thieving. The tiger never goes near the village again. Park’s energetic illustrations employ acrylics over textured gesso, and the oranges, blacks, and deep greens vibrate with intensity. The tiger is a wonderful comic creature: puffed with self-importance or slithering into a coiled calligraphic mass of fear, its every expression and gesture deliciously exaggerated.” (Booklist Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 3</p>
<p>“Too Many Tamales”</p> 	<p>“Snow is falling, preparations for a family feast are underway and the air is thick with excitement. Maria is making tamales, kneading the masa and feeling grown-up. All she wants is a chance to wear her mother’s diamond ring, which sparkles temptingly on the kitchen counter. When her mother steps away, Maria seizes her opportunity and dons the ring, then carries on with her work. Only later, when the tamales are cooled and a circle of cousins gathered, does Maria remember the diamond. She and the cousins search every tamale—with their teeth. Of course the ring turns out to be safely on Mom’s finger. Soto, noted for such fiction as <i>Baseball in April</i>, confers some pleasing touches—a tear on Maria’s finger resembles a diamond; he allows the celebrants a Hispanic identity without making it the main focus of the text—but overall the plot is too sentimental (and owes a major debt to an <i>I Love Lucy</i> episode). Martinez’s sensuous oil paintings in deep earth tones conjure up a sense of family unity and the warmth of holidays. The children’s expressions are deftly rendered—especially when they are faced with a second batch of tamales.” (Publishers Weekly)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 3</p>

<p>“What I Like About Me!”</p> 	<p>“This fun-loving book proves to kids that, in a world where fitting in is the norm, being different is what makes us special. The kids in <i>What I Like About Me!</i> are as different as night and day. And, guess what? They love it. Some adore the fact that their braces dazzle and gleam, others feel distinguished when they wear their glasses. Still others wouldn’t trade their big feet for a lifetime of free video games. A mylar mirror embedded in the last page let kids take a look at themselves and decide what they like best about themselves.” (Amazon Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 2</p>
<p>“Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People’s Ears: A West African Tale”</p> 	<p>“In this Caldecott Medal winner, Mosquito tells a story that causes a jungle disaster. “Elegance has become the Dillons’ hallmark. . . . Matching the art is Aardema’s uniquely onomatopoeic text . . . An impressive showpiece.” (Booklist Review)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 3</p>
<p>“Yeh-Shen: A Cinderella Story from China”</p> 	<p>“Executed with chromatic splendor—a unique combination of brillinace and restraint.” (<i>The Horn Book</i>); “Every library will be enriched by it.” (School Library Journal)</p>	<p>Kindergarten-Grade 2</p>