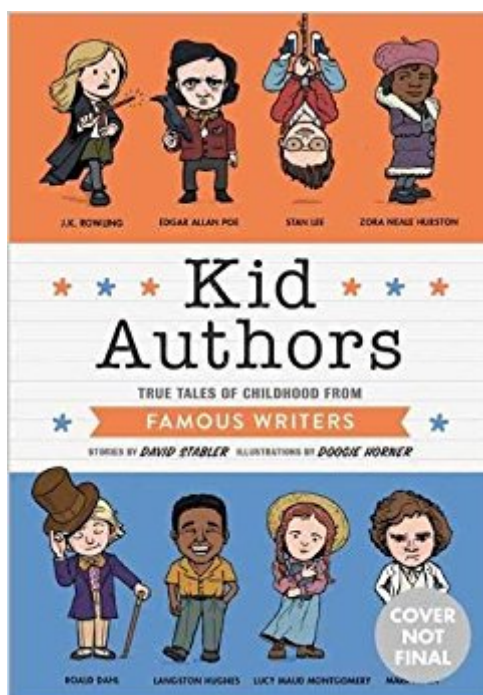


The book was found

Kid Authors: True Tales Of Childhood From Famous Writers (Kid Legends)



Synopsis

The series that includes Kid Presidents, Kid Artists, and Kid Athletes now chronicles the lives of Kid Authors! Here are true tales of famous writers, from long before they were famous—or even old enough to drive. Did you know: Sam Clemens (aka Mark Twain) loved to skip school and make mischief, with his best friend Tom, of course! A young J. R. R. Tolkien was bitten by a huge tarantula—or as he called it, “a spider” as big as a dragon. Toddler Zora Neale Hurston took her first steps when a wild hog entered her house and started chasing her! The diverse and inclusive cast includes Roald Dahl, Beverly Cleary, J. K. Rowling, Langston Hughes, Jules Verne, Lewis Carroll, Stan Lee, and many more.

Book Information

Series: Kid Legends (Book 4)

Hardcover: 200 pages

Publisher: Quirk Books (October 10, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1594749876

ISBN-13: 978-1594749872

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.9 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #129,871 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Literary #978 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History #1003 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

“Lively glimpses of formative moments and budding talents.”—Kirkus Reviews
“[Kid Authors] was full of real information, but the author made it fun and funny. I would recommend this book for all people who read books and want to know interesting information about authors, and also for people who want to be authors themselves.”—Michael, age 9

Author David Stabler and illustrator Doogie Horner have created many books,

including *Kid Presidents* (Quirk, 2014), *Kid Athletes* (Quirk, 2015), and *Kid Artists* (Quirk, 2016). Both live in New York City.

I've always liked books that tell the story of how famous people were inspired in their careers and how they overcame obstacles along the way, particularly in childhood, to achieve their goals. I'm particularly interested in writers because I'm a writer and I've always thought it takes a certain amount of adversity and a lot of unusual life challenges to make someone want to spend their lives sitting at a keyboard all day, regardless of what it is that they write. This book is a basic but nonetheless interesting look at a lot of famous kid authors that most kids today will be familiar with ranging from J. K. Rowling to Langston Hughes to Laura Ingalls Wilder. There are (if I counted correctly) 15 different authors profiled. I think that kids will get a kick out of this book because it shows them, first and foremost, that famous writers aren't born as either writers or famous. Most of these authors came from very humble beginnings and most had to overcome huge hurdles just to survive: Mark Twain's father died when he was very young and so Twain had to go to work to support his family and Laura Ingalls Wilder's father had a wicked wanderlust and the family had to endure so much misery (like locust infestations on their wheat farm!) just to survive. You can see in reading about their childhoods that it was, in fact, the adversity that later inspired their writing and their ability to persevere as authors (which is not easy). Because all of these writers had such ordinary roots, I think it will help give kids the confidence to know that they can do whatever they set out to do. I think kids will also have fun connecting the themes and events that writers write about with their actual lives. Roald Dahl ("Charlie and the Chocolate Factory") was, of course, a candy addict as a kid! Mark Twain really was a river boat pilot. When this book arrived I sat down to glance through it and ended up reading more than half of it at a first sitting. I think if I got this book as a kid I'd do the same thing. The book doesn't go into great detail, that's not its goal, but as an introduction to the lives of these 15 authors, I think it does a good job--and there is a bibliography at the end for further reading. Who knows, maybe the kid who is putting snakes in your sewing basket will turn out to create a character like Tom Sawyer one day.

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