

Media Kit

Shelli R. Johannes

Children's Book Author

I hope you love
my books!



srjohannes.com

Meet the author

I am the author of 18 books (out and forthcoming), including the popular STEM CECE LOVES SCIENCE series and PENNY (The Engineering Tail of the Fourth Little Pig). In addition to my tween and teen novels, I am also the author of the THEO THESAURUS picture book series and SHINE LIKE A UNICORN. My newest release, FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, is part of Chelsea Clinton's amazing "She Persisted" series.

I love animals, science and unicorns, which show up in most of my books. I can often be found on highways and country roads, saving strays and other jaywalking critters or volunteering with animal conservation groups. After earning an MBA and working in Corporate America, I finally escaped and followed my passion for writing.

I live in Atlanta with my own pack of unicorns: a British husband, two hilarious teens, two hairy Goldendoodles, one sassy bird, and many characters that "live" in my head.

I am also addicted to exclamation points, puns, and cupcakes. You can always count on me to laugh at my own jokes—at least once.

Yes, this is the sassy bird!



Shelli R. Johannes

Most of my ideas come from my kids, things I hear, or articles I read. Each one of my books started that way. Here are the stories behind the stories:

Loves Science series



My daughter always loved science. Instead of playing with makeup or dressing up, she saved earthworms and looked for 4-leaf clovers. One day, when she was ten, I asked if she was excited about science camp. Surprisingly, she said, "Not really. Science is for boys." My stomach clenched. How did a girl who grew up in a science family, who loved everything about science, come to this conclusion? Her father has a PhD in topography, I do conservation work with animals, and her teachers encourage science in class. I realized then that forces outside of our intimate circle influence our children—without us knowing. That day I came up with an idea: what if I took Fancy Nancy and added science? When I told my BFF, Kim, she said her daughter said the same thing at that age, so we decided to take a chance and write Cece Loves Science together.

Shine Like a Unicorn



In school, my kids struggled with bullies. One time, my son was in elementary school and was dealing with a bully who would hit him, call him names, and get others to exclude him. Of course, we were at the school, talking to administrators and meeting with teachers, but that year, he cried every day he got off the bus and turned into a boy who wished he was different so people would like him. I would ask: "If you saw a unicorn in a field and a herd of horses - which one would you want to meet?" "The Unicorn!" he would say. That became the heart of our family motto: "Be a unicorn in a herd of horses." Sometimes unicorns are alone, but they are always special and unique. I eventually got the idea to write a book where a unicorn could share his secrets on how to stand out in a crowd even more. This topic is challenging and emotional, so making it funny was important to me. That is how Glitterpooop was born.

Theo TheSaurus series



When my son was in middle school, he loved impressing his teachers. He would write short essays and try to use big words. Sometimes the words were not used correctly, and sometimes they just didn't fit. One day, he was writing a paper and yelled from the back room.

"Mom, what is a big word for happy?"

I yelled back, "Look in a thesaurus."

"A what?" he said. "A thesaurus!" I answered.

"A what?" he asked again. "A thesaurus as in The Saurus like the dinosaur!" I said again.

I immediately got an idea about a dinosaur who loved big words. I couldn't believe it had not been done yet. I was shocked, so I created Theo that night. He is a TheSaurus, but no one understands a word he says due to miscommunications and misunderstandings.

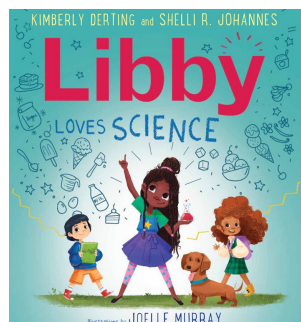
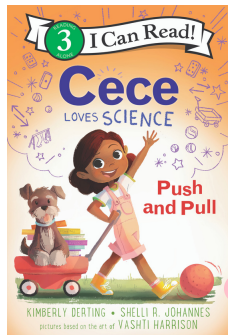
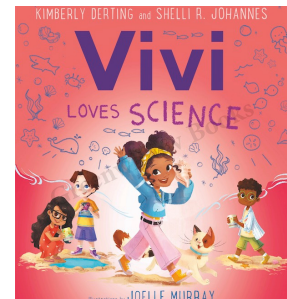
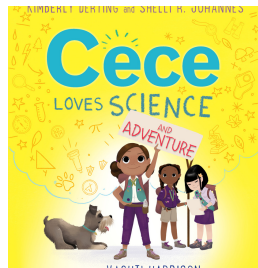
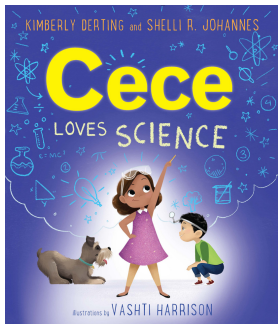
Penny, The Engineering Tail of the Fourth Pig



Kim and I thought about writing a stem fairy tale book. We brainstormed a lot of different ideas, including the Three Little Pigs. We started wondering what happened after the story. Did they rebuild? Did the wolf come back? Then we asked, "What if the three little pigs had a sister, and she was an engineer." We loved the idea of taking fairy tales and continuing them to find out the conclusion to the stories. We decided to include stem topics because we thought it would be different and exciting to see how the ladies of the stories saved the day for a change.

LOVES SCIENCE SERIES

"A wonderful book for fans of Ada Twist; it is also perfect for a STEM read-aloud. An appealing concoction." — School Library Journal (Starred Review)



The Loves Science series is about girls who love science and ask the question, "Why?" These STEM-themed books introduce readers to Cece, Libby, and Vivi, girls who love zoology, chemistry, and marine biology, as well as technology, engineering, and math. This series is great for aspiring readers and kids who love science. It's perfect for fans of Andrea Beaty's "Rosie Revere, Engineer" and "What Do You Do With An Idea?" The books also include glossaries, activities, and science experiments that are easy to do at home or in the classroom.

Coauthor: Kimberly Derting

"Derting and Johannes model the practical uses of STEM ...this volume continues to build out their worthy message about girls embracing science."
— Publisher's Weekly

"Smart girls, friendship, and fun: a winning combination." —Kirkus Reviews

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Science is fun!

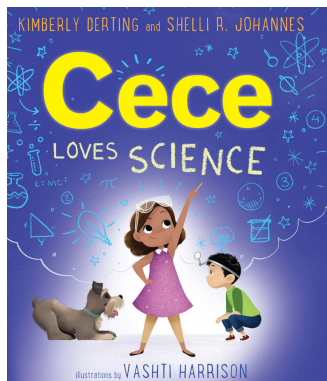


PICTURE BOOKS

All of the Loves Science books include a glossary, fun activities, and safe experiments that kids can do at home or in the classroom.

Amazon's Best Book of the Month

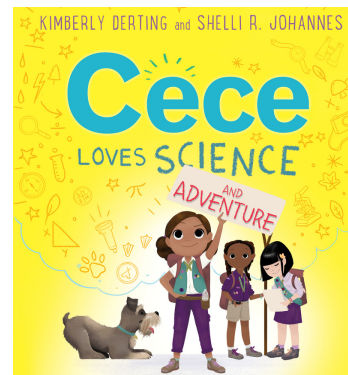
Cece Loves Science



Cece loves to ask questions! So when her science teacher, Ms. Curie, assigns a science project on zoology, Cece and Isaac use her dog, Einstein, and science to answer the question: Do dogs eat vegetables?

Publish Date: 06/ 09 /2018
PB ISBN 13: 978-0062499615
HB ISBN13: 978-0062499608
Illustrator: Vashti Harrison

Cece Loves Science & Adventure

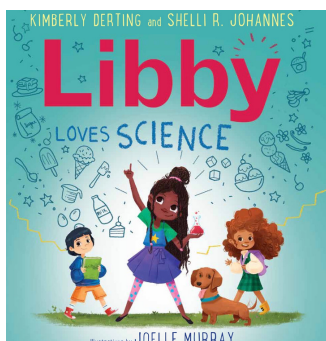


Cece can't wait to go camping with her mom and the Adventure Girls. When a storm rolls in, the girls must use science, technology, engineering and math to get back to camp .

Publish Date: 06/ 04 /2019
PB ISBN 13: 978-0062499639
HB ISBN13: 978-0062499622
Illustrator: Vashti Harrison

Libby Loves Science

SLJ Starred Review



Libby and her friends are in charge of the science booth at the school fair. But no one is coming! To get more visitors, Libby and her friends use teamwork, creativity, and a whole lot of chemistry to prove that science is for everyone.

Publish Date: 06/ 09 /2020
PB ISBN 13: 978-0062946058
HB ISBN13: 978-0062946041
Illustrator: Joelle Murray

Vivi Loves Science

Amazon's Best Book of the Month



Vivi and her classmates go on a field trip to the ocean so they can investigate tide pools. With help from a park ranger, Vivi and her friends make aquascopes and learn about some species that call the ocean home.

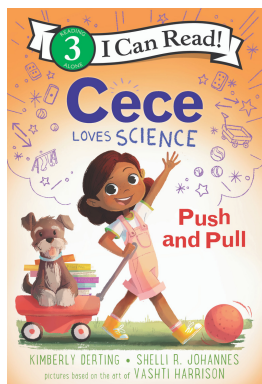
Publish Date: 07/ 13 /2021
PB ISBN 13: 978-0062946072
HB ISBN13: 978-0062946065
Illustrator: Joelle Murray



EARLY READERS/I CAN READS L3

All of the Loves Science picture books include a glossary, activities and safe experiments kids can do at home or in the classroom.

Cece Loves Science Push and Pull



Cece's teacher, Miss Curie, explains the opposite forces of push and pull. Then Cece and her classmates create a treat dispenser for Cece's dog, Einstein, that uses both forces.

Publish Date: 02/ 25 /2020
PB ISBN 13: 978-0062946089
HB ISBN13: 978-0062946096
Illustrator: Vashti Harrison

Libby Loves Science Mix and Measure



Libby hosts a puppy party for her friends and their dogs. With her friend, Rosa, and little brother, Libby learns how to mix and measure and bake a delicious treat. But when they forget an important ingredient, they use science to solve the problem.

Publish Date: 01/ 05 /2021
PB ISBN 13: 978-0062946126
HB ISBN13: 978-0062946126
Illustrator: Joelle Murray

Vivi Loves Science Sink or Float



Vivi and her classmates visit an aquarium and learn about the creatures living in the big display tank. But why do some fish float while others sink in the sand? They explore sinking, floating and the concepts of buoyancy and density,

Publish Date: 02/ 15 /2022
PB ISBN 13: 978-0063116566
HB ISBN13: 978-0063116573
Illustrator: Joelle Murray

Vivi Loves Science Wind and Water



Vivi helps her community clean up the beach after a storm hits her town. But why does the beach look so different than before? Vivi and her friends learn about erosion and see how wind and water can shape the landscape.

Publish Date: 01/ 10 /2023
PB ISBN 13: 978-0063116597
HB ISBN13: 978-0063116603
Illustrator: Joelle Murray



LOVES SCIENCE PRAISE

Nailed it!

Vivi Loves Science

"Fans of the series that began with CeCe Loves Science (2018) will enjoy this beach-themed exploration.

The brightly colored images rival those of Dreamworks or Disney in cuteness and charm while also providing information. A nifty way to help young learners see the beach through the lens of science." — Kirkus Reviews

"A great pick for newly independent readers and an ideal companion to Cece Loves Science." —YA Books Central

Libby Loves Science

"Joining the ranks of strong girls in STEM [is] Libby . . . Brightly colored artwork bubbles with Libby's enthusiasm . . . This book is a natural fit for classroom science units and home use." — Booklist.

"VERDICT A successful marriage of solid information and good fun, this book expresses a love for the topic that will encourage kids to follow their curiosity and develop their own appreciation for science." — School Library Journal (Starred Review)

"The diverse characters are accessible and fun. Science lovers will be happy to continue collecting these titles, and the incorporation of well-loved activities like cooking and making slime just may convert science skeptics into science lovers too. Sure to inspire real-life experimentation. (science facts)" — Kirkus Reviews

Cece Loves Science and Adventure

"Derting and Johannes model the practical uses of STEM...this volume continues to build out their worthy message about girls embracing science." - Publisher's Weekly

Cece Loves Science

"A wonderful book for fans of Ada Twist; it is also perfect for a STEM read-aloud. Words and pictures combine to make a smooth blend of entertainment and education that may be useful in early elementary classrooms. An appealing concoction." — School Library Journal

"Harrison's clean, bright illustrations add expression and personality to the story. ...this endearing protagonist earns a place on the children's STEM shelf. A good introduction to observation, data, and trying again." — Kirkus Reviews

"Cece is a smart and curious girl who loves to get to the bottom of all her complex questions. ... Harrison's expressive digital illustrations have a lot of energy, color, and motion...A fun way to introduce scientific methods." — Booklist

"It's a good read for children, especially those interested in STEM." — The Houston Chronicle

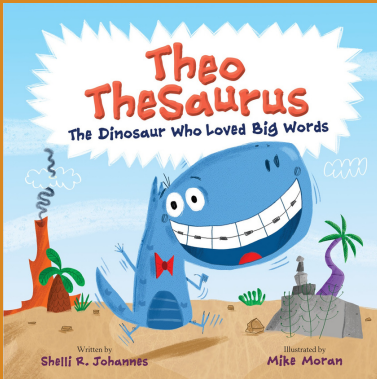
"Cece Loves Science is all about the joys of STEM education...inclusion at its finest, operating as a window into a world to which we can all aspire." — My Statesman

THEO THESAURUS

Theo TheSaurus is a dinosaur who loves words--the bigger, the better! And he's determined to share that love with everyone. The problem is - that no one seems to understand him. This series is about literacy, vocabulary, fitting in, and being misunderstood.



Theo TheSaurus



Theo TheSaurus loves words--the bigger, the better! And he's determined to share that love with his new classmates, even if they don't understand him at first. But after things get discombobulated, Theo realizes that misinterpretations can just be plain confusing! It's only when his newfound friends find a way to show they care that Theo learns that sometimes, there are things more important than words.

Publish Date: 06/ 15 /2021

ISBN-10 : 0593205510

ISBN-13 : 978-0593205518

Illustrator: Mike Moran

"Younger logophiles may savor the wordplay and appreciate the "Defino-Dino" who occasionally pops into view with a helpful definitions." –Kirkus Reviews

Theo TheSaurus - The Perfect Pet

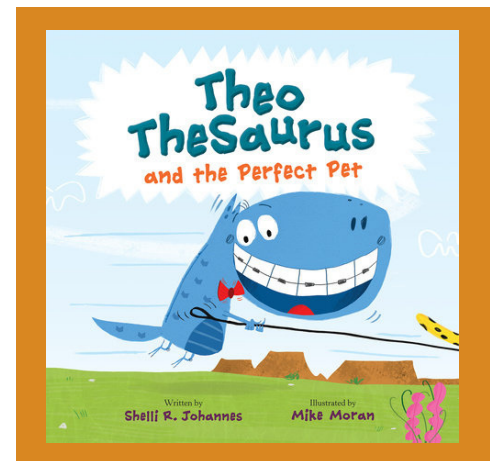
Theo longs for a pet of his very own. So when he finds a baby sabretooth tiger, it feels like the perfect match. But when Theo's big vocabulary makes it difficult to train his new pet, Theo must find a different way to communicate with Fang if he wants to hang onto his furry companion.

Publish Date: 07/ 26 /2022

ISBN-10: 059346432X

ISBN-13: 978-0593464328

Illustrator: Mike Moran



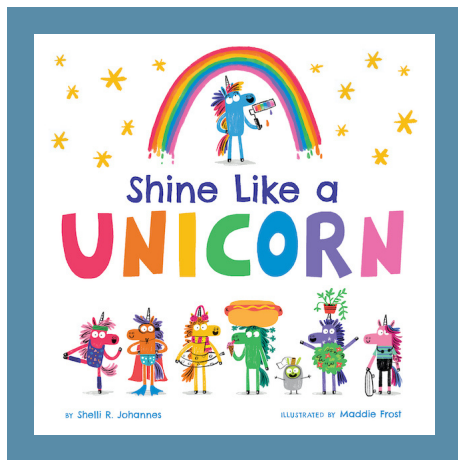
"Word-loving Theo's distress at seeing his prehistoric peers with proper pets dissipates after he latches on to a small and solitary saber-tooth tiger...Unfortunately, the manic mammal proves hard to tame. The theme of finding and sharing a common language adds a buff to the basic vocabulary building. Dinophiles and budding wordsmiths will be delighted." – Kirkus Reviews

"The playful art...[is] sure to garner giggles, and the candy-colored animals bring pops of color to the predominantly green-and-brown Mesozoic backdrop."

–The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

MORE PICTURE BOOKS

Shine Like a Unicorn



Do you want to shine like a unicorn? Of course, you do! My name is Glitter Poop, and I'm here to show you in 9 secret steps how to be a UNICORN. Warning: It's not always easy being a unicorn. Unicorns are special and totally uni-que. We have crazy names, know how to stand out in a herd, love to ask questions, and always search for the bright side. Most importantly, we make our own magic!



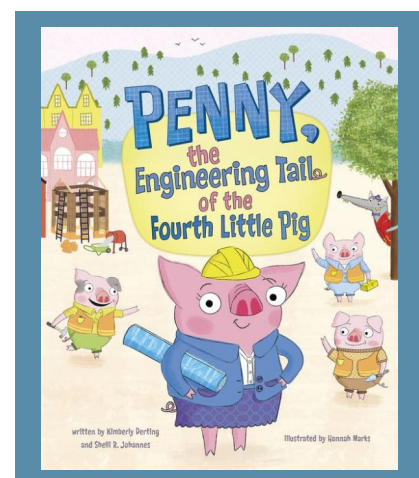
Publish Date: 09/ 21 /2021
ISBN-10 : 0062998331
ISBN-13 : 978-0062998330
Illustrator: Maddie Frost

"An essential question is posed: "Do you want to shine like a unicorn?" An extremely excited unicorn protagonist Glitter Poop can't wait to share the secret steps that will make this dream come true. Embellished with rainbows, confetti, doughnuts, and joy, Frost's buoyant art rises to Glitter Poop's energy. A rousing call to action at the end unifies all unicorn-storytime devotees." –Kirkus Reviews

Penny - The Engineering Tail of the Fourth Little Pig

Penny isn't just the fourth little pig—she's an engineer. So when big bad Wolfgang destroys her brothers' homes, Penny comes to the rescue! When Wolfgang returns, Penny must use all her engineering know-how to save her family from his huffing and puffing.

Publish Date: 07/ 29 /2022
ISBN-10 : 1684464811
ISBN-13 : 978-1684464814
CoAuthor: Kimberly Derting
Illustrator: Hannah Marks

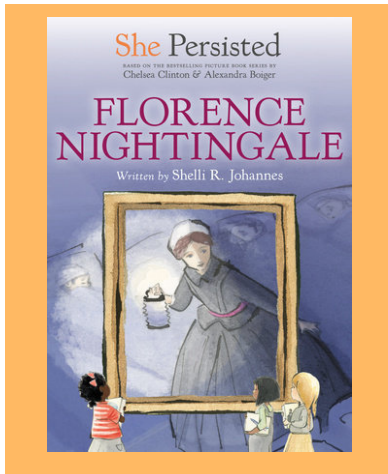


"Derting and Johannes highlight the previously unknown fourth little pig, Penny, in this engineering "tail." Sister to the famous three little pigs, Penny is determined to shine through her engineering expertise. When Wolfgang, the big bad wolf, wreaks havoc on the pigs, Penny arrives to assess the damage and help her brothers design a wolf trap. The dialogue brings this extended fairy tale to life and will easily entertain and interest young engineers. VERDICT An excellent choice for elementary collections, and especially recommended for STEAM shelves." – School Library Journal

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE: "SHE PERSISTED" SERIES BY CHELSEA CLINTON

Pinch me!

Inspired by the #1 New York Times bestseller "She Persisted" by Chelsea Clinton and Alexandra Boiger, this a chapter book series about women who spoke up and rose up against the odds!



When Florence Nightingale decided as a teenager that she wanted to become a nurse, her parents tried to talk her out of it, claiming that it wasn't a suitable profession for a woman. But she persisted in her career and went on to save countless lives of patients, especially of soldiers. Known as "The Lady with the Lamp," she is widely considered to be the founder of modern nursing.

In this chapter book biography, readers learn about the amazing life of Florence Nightingale--and how she persisted. Complete with an introduction from Chelsea Clinton, black-and-white illustrations throughout, and a list of ways that readers can follow in Florence Nightingale's footsteps and make a difference!

Publish Date: 09/ 21 /2021
ISBN-10 : 0593529006
ISBN-13 : 978-0593529003
Illustrators:
Alexandra Boiger
and Gillian Flint

And don't miss out on the rest of the books in the She Persisted series, featuring so many more women who persisted, including Sally Ride, Rosalind Franklin, Temple Grandin, and more!



Chelsea Clinton is the author of the #1 New York Times bestseller She Persisted series. She is also the Vice Chair of the Clinton Foundation, where she works on many initiatives, including those that help empower the next generation of leaders. She lives in New York City with her husband, Marc, their children and their dog, Soren.

You can follow Chelsea Clinton on Twitter @ChelseaClinton or on Facebook at facebook.com/chelseaclinton.



HIGHLIGHTS

They
freakin'
rock!

Illustrated by bestselling and award-winning illustrators: Vashti Harrison, Joelle Murray, Alexandra Boiter, Gillian Flint, Maddie Frost, Mike Moran, and Hannah Marks

Cece Loves Science awarded "Book All Young Readers Should Read"
— Georgia Center for Books

Theo TheSaurus awarded "Book All Young Readers Should Read"
— Georgia Center for Books

Chosen for Barnes and Noble National Storytime

What?!
It's true!

Goodhousekeeping magazine featured Cece Loves Science – "Best Book for Bedtime"

SLJ gave a Starred Review to Libby Loves Science!

Books Highlighted by Kristin Bell on her Instagram (15.5 M)

IKR!

Cece Loves Science and Cece Push and Pull – Chosen for Scholastic Book Fairs and Book Clubs

Theo TheSaurus – Chosen for Scholastic Book Fairs and Book Clubs

All Books Have Received Critical Reviews – SLJ, Booklist, Kirkus Reviews, and Publisher's Weekly

Featured on Zibby Owen's Podcast, "Moms Don't Have Time To Read Books"

Featured in Target, Walmart, Barnes and Noble, and Costco

Boo...Hiss!

Cece Loves Science marked as a Banned Book
– New York Times

WHAT DO READERS SAY?



Shine Like a Unicorn

"Who knew that unicorns could be so funny!? This book shows us the hilarious and inspiring antics of unicorns like ones we've never seen before!"
—Zibby Owens (Podcaster, Book Influencer, Author)

BTW, these are NOT
written by my mom!
They are real
people!



Theo TheSaurus

"I bought this book for my Dino-obsessed 4-year-old boy. He LOVES this book. We read it up to 3 times a day. It has really stretched his vocabulary, which I imagine is the point of the book. Great book. Well written. So happy I found it."
—Amazon Reviewer



Penny, The Engineering Tail of the Fourth Little Pig

"This is a fantastic example of a woman in a STEM/professional field and leadership position. Penny's competence and role of being in charge are never questioned. Instead, she flourishes and uses her mind and skills to solve problems and help her family. It's also chock full of piggie puns that are giggle and groan-worthy."
— GoodReads Reviewer



Libby Loves Science

"Not only is science fun but mistakes can lead to new discoveries. The authors are hoping to spread the love of science to every child who reads this book and the others in the series, especially for brown girls. More girls of color seem to be gravitating towards the sciences and I believe that it is partially due to books like this. Libby Loves Science is an absolute must-have for the budding scientist in your life!"
—MijaBooks (Book Influencer)

Wow I'm
cool!

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Tell us a bit about your background.

I have an MBA in marketing and worked in corporate America for over 15 years doing marketing, communication, and training. Eventually, I escaped and have been doing freelance copywriting ever since. I own my own marketing company and have worked with Amazon, Chick-Fil-A, Goody Hair, Spanx, and Microsoft.

I started writing in 2004 when I went on maternity leave with my daughter. I wrote a middle-grade book that almost got published. I got a great editorial letter that was encouraging. But that book will never see the light of day. Since then I have published five teen novels, 13 picture books/Early Readers, and 1 nonfiction chapter book. I have more Loves Science books and a STEM chapter book series forthcoming.

Tell us about your family.

I have a husband from Wales (yes, he has an accent that makes him always sound very polite!) I also have a small herd, including two kids, two Goldendoodles (Moby and Dusty), and a sassy little bird (Ziggy). We've rescued a couple of animals, but I've been lucky to place them in homes, or I'd have tons more.

I'm actually very boring, which is probably why I write thrillers. I love being at home, doing yoga, reading, and playing with my kids. That's my everyday.

How long have you been writing?

I started right after I had my daughter in 2004. I always say she sat on something. I think since I had 4 months off maternity leave – I started writing while she was napping and couldn't stop. I hadn't written much before that. But when I was little, I used to write all the time. In 2006, I left my corporate job and started freelancing in copywriting and marketing. From there I started my own business where I could take the jobs I wanted while writing. It's the best of both worlds.

How do you get inspired?

This may sound corny, but my kids inspire me. All growing up they had problems with bullying and being left out because they were different in that they liked science and books more than makeup and sports.

Tell us your most rewarding experience since being published.

Knowing I created something on my own – something that touches people and makes them think in some way.

What was your favorite book when you were a child/teen?

Pippi Longstocking. I loved that at that age – she was independent, confident, creative, and super sassy.

Favorite Movie of All Time: Harry Potter or Lord of the Ring series

Favorite Avenger Movie: Guardians of the Galaxy

Favorite Comedian: Jim Gaffigan

Favorite Video Game to Play: Minecraft or Fortnite

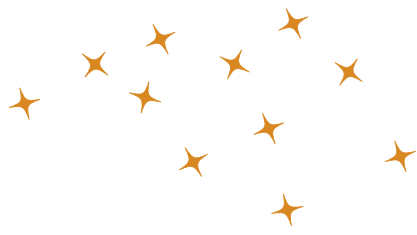
Favorite Author: James Patterson (or JK Rowling)

Favorite Color: Oceanic Blue

Favorite Food of All Time: Cheese dip

Favorite Chocolate: Dark

Favorite Poem: Two Roads Diverged by Robert Frost



Thank You! :)

Dear Reader,

I love to write! It's everything to me.

Creating stories that touch people fills my soul. The heart of all my books focuses on people who don't fit into the norm and those who are different. I love encouraging readers to be unique and celebrate the differences they see in themselves and others.

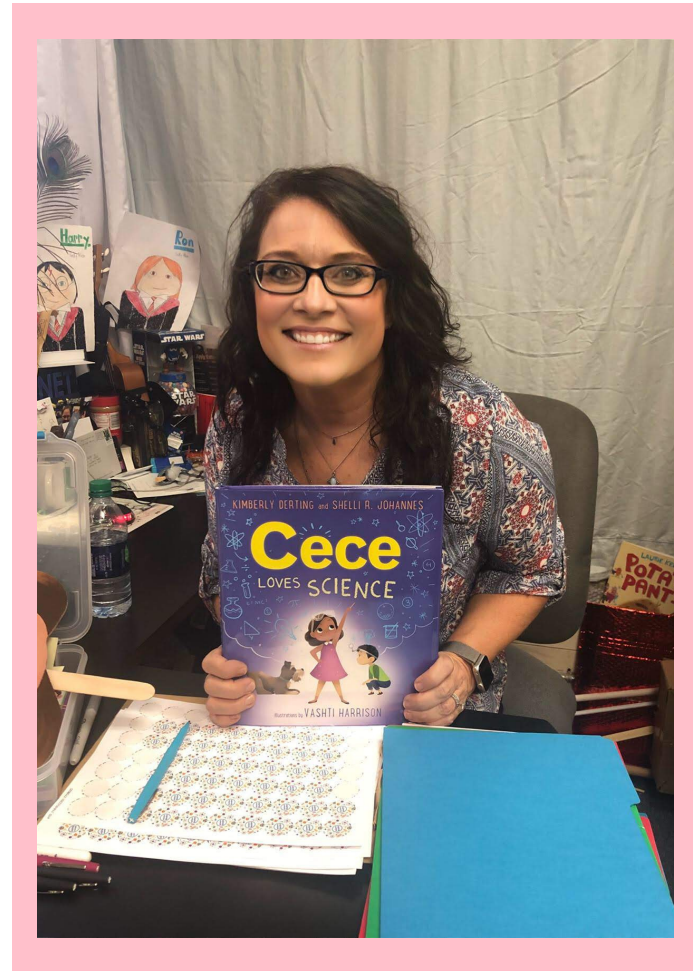
Every time you love my books or read my books, it makes me happy.

So, thank you for reading my books. Thank you for choosing my stories. And, thank you for helping me grow as a writer.

But most of all, thank you for being a part of my journey...

With love,

Shellie 



Let's be
friends!
Follow me!!

Contact Me



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Agent: Laurel Symonds
Agency: KT Literary
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