



Rebecca Bender

Graduating from the Ontario College of Art and Design with the medal for illustration, Rebecca Bender made a big splash with her first picture book, *Giraffe and Bird*. It won the OLA Blue Spruce Award in 2012, the following year its sequel, *Don't Laugh at Giraffe*, was an OLA Blue Spruce honour book. *Peach Girl*, a picture book written by Raymond Nakamura, is a Cooperative Children's Book Center best-of-the-year Choice and a Toronto Public Library "First and Best" list selection. An art director and designer as well as an author/illustrator, Rebecca lives in Burlington, Ontario, with her husband and two children.

Rebecca's Books

Giraffe and Bird, Pajama Press, 2017
How Do You Feel? Pajama Press, 2016
Giraffe Meets Bird, Pajama Press, 2015
Peach Girl, Pajama Press, 2014 (illustrator)
Don't Laugh at Giraffe, Pajama Press, 2012



Connect With Rebecca

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Goodreads: www.goodreads.com/author/show/1709108.Rebecca_Bender
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Tumblr: littlestreetstudio.tumblr.com

Awards and Honours

Peach Girl

2015 Cooperative Children's Book Center
best-of-the-year Choice
2014 Toronto Public Library "First & Best"
list

Giraffe and Bird

2012 OLA Blue Spruce Award winner
2011 CBA Libris Award for Children's Picture
Book of the Year shortlist
2011 SYRCA Shining Willow Award finalist

Don't Laugh at Giraffe

2013 OLA Blue Spruce Award honour book
2014 Rainforest of Reading nominee

Reviews of Previous Books

How Do You Feel?

"The small trim size and padded hardcover format make it perfect for little ones, who may even be inspired to find new ways of expressing how they feel in every sense of the phrase."—**Midwest Book Review**

"The ending of the book is a nice surprise – switching from a focus on physical feelings (e.g., soft, gnarly) to emotional feelings. This may allow parents an opportunity to discuss the differences in what or how a child might be 'feeling' and that both types of feeling are important."—**CM Magazine**

Giraffe Meets Bird

"Sincerely sweet."—**Kirkus Reviews**

"With or without the pithy array of synonyms, the story's overall message is what leaves the biggest impression: relationships are hard work, requiring tolerance and understanding, but are well worth the effort. A worthy purchase along with Bender's other two books about Giraffe and Bird."—**School Library Journal**

Peach Girl

"...this story has a satisfying ring and a tasty ending. A winningly good-natured version of a familiar favorite."—**Kirkus Reviews**

"Nakamura's playful twists on gender tropes combined with Bender's outstanding visuals make this a fun and important book for boys and girls alike."—**Quill & Quire**

Don't Laugh at Giraffe

"*Don't Laugh at Giraffe* is a warm, gentle tale with a good message and plenty of funny moments, making it a great choice for sharing. After all, the story reminds us, it's always better to laugh with a friend than at one."—**Quill & Quire Starred Review**

"...The conversational text gracefully delivers a message about kindness and having a sense of humor."—**Publishers Weekly**

Giraffe and Bird

"Rebecca Bender has created a confident, colourful, and very funny picture book. The punchy text tells a simple story about getting along, with lots of words enlarged for emphasis to make reading aloud more dramatic....A delightful debut."—**Quill & Quire**

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