



Iza Trapani

"As a child I spent hours reading books, immersed in their magic. These days I try to re-create some of that magic for others to enjoy"

Born in Communist-ruled Poland, Iza Trapani quickly learned ways to escape the hardships of life in Warsaw. Crammed into a tiny one-bedroom apartment with her five family members, Iza discovered the wide open world of books and art. "My parents taught me to read before I started school and always encouraged me to draw, even though I tended to take over our dining area table."

When she was seven years old, Iza and her mother traveled to America to visit relatives. Whole families were not allowed to leave Poland, so Iza's father, grandmother, brother, and sister stayed behind. Their three-month visit turned into a permanent stay. Her mother died when she was twelve years old and Iza spent three years in an orphanage. Several years later she put herself through college at the State University in New Paltz, New York, working odd jobs. She was a nanny, a short-order cook, a rock-climbing guide, and even a real estate broker. But all the while, Iza worked as a freelance artist, dreaming of the day when she could illustrate children's books. "For many years when blowing out the candles on my birthday cakes it was my wish to make children's books. I had a portfolio filled with picture book art, just waiting for that lucky break."

Her lucky break came when a turtle crossed

her path. "I was riding my mountain bike through the woods and a turtle crossed the trail in front of me. I made up a little verse about the turtle. By the time I got home, I had two more verses about an ostrich and a hippo." The incidental encounter inspired Iza's first book, *What Am I? An Animal Guessing Game*.

Now the author/illustrator of more than twenty titles including best-sellers *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star* and *The Itsy Bitsy Spider*, Iza is living her dream. Through her stories, Iza shares a part of herself with her readers. As a child, she spent hours immersed in the magical world of picture books. Now, as an adult she still sits and giggles with Dr. Seuss's books. "It was a love I never outgrew."

Iza lives with her husband in the Hudson River Valley, New York. She says she is blessed by readers' warm reception of her books. Iza attributes much of her success to her parents, who instilled in her an appreciation for books, art, and music. "For the brief time that I knew my parents, their encouragement and support left a lasting impression and contributed greatly to the realization of my lifelong dream. I still can't believe how fortunate I am . . . I often reflect back to that little girl in Poland sketching on newspaper margins."

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star



A Visit with Iza Trapani

Iza's presentations give readers a chance to ask her about the book-making process. She shows them original dummies, rough drafts, final paintings, proofs, and even rejects. "It helps to make books real for them and gets them excited about reading, writing, and drawing." More importantly, visits give Iza a chance to meet her audience. "It's a wonderful experience for me, seeing their excited faces, absorbing their ebullience, and learning from them."

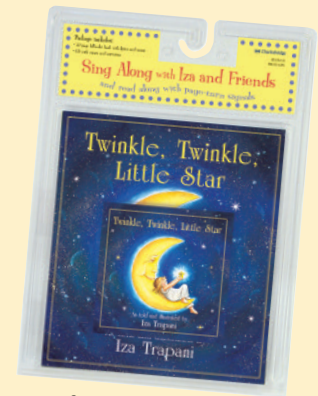
Each hour-long presentation includes a question & answer session, a drawing demonstration, and a read-a-long or sing-a-long.

To arrange a visit, contact Iza by telephone at (845) 658-3586 or by email at iza@izatrapani.com, or visit her website at www.izatrapani.com. Or, call Charlesbridge at (800) 225-3214, ext. 122.

Sing Along with Iza and Friends

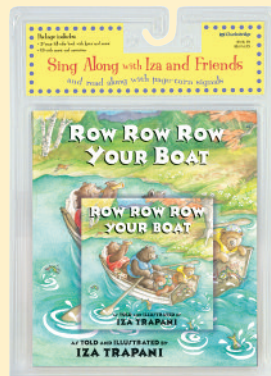


978-1-58089-100-4



978-1-58089-101-1

Young children love Iza Trapani's retellings of traditional nursery rhymes. Now children who ask to hear her stories again and again can join Iza in singing and reading along with their favorites.



978-1-58089-102-8

Sing Along With Iza and Friends:

The Itsy Bitsy Spider

Row Row Row Your Boat

Twinkle Twinkle, Little Star

"The CD can be used as either a lullaby to lull children to sleep or as a read-along to help them improve their reading skills."

—*School Library Journal*

Sing along with Iza and Friends

- ◆ Familiar nursery rhyme and song melodies
- ◆ Exciting new adventures with familiar characters
- ◆ Lively music and sound effects

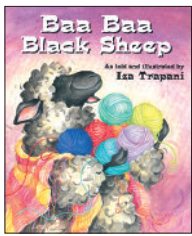
Read along with page-turn signals

- ◆ Rhyming stories give kids a great start in reading
- ◆ Complete word-for-word reading
- ◆ Warm and inviting illustrations

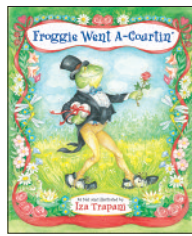
\$11.95 PB w/CD

Package includes: 32-page, full-color book with lyrics and music • CD with music and narration

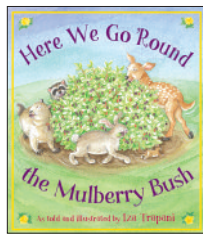
Books by Iza Trapani



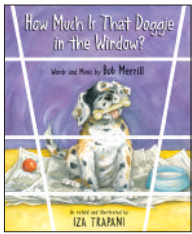
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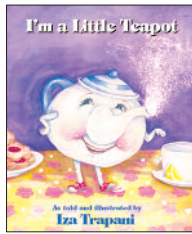
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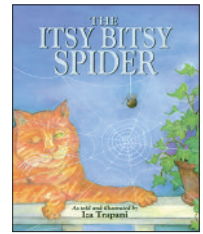
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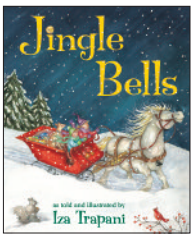
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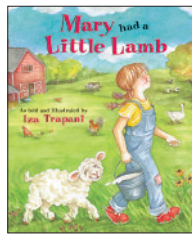
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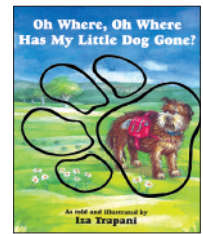
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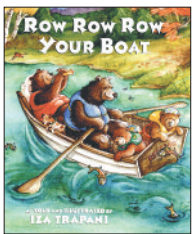
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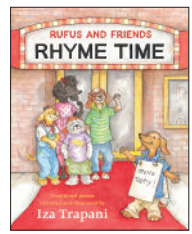
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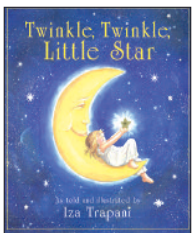
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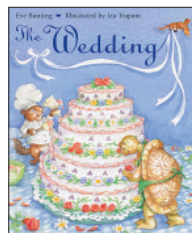
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978-1-58089-040-7 \$15.95, HC



978-1-58089-246-9 \$15.95, HC

Books by Iza Trapani:

Baa Baa Black Sheep

Froggie Went A-Courtin'

- A 2002 Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Gold Award
 - CBC/IRA Children's Choice for 2003
- "Trapani's joyous and bright watercolors are perfectly wedded to the cheerful new version of this Scottish song."

—*School Library Journal*

Haunted Party

Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush

How Much is that Doggie in the Window?

I'm A Little Teapot

- "This adventuresome teapot dreams of traveling to China and outer space as well as taking part in an opera and fox hunt."

—*Publishers Weekly*

The Itsy Bitsy Spider

Jingle Bells

Mary Had a Little Lamb

Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?

Row Row Row Your Boat

Rufus and Friends: Rhyme Time

Shoo Fly!

- CBC/IRA Children's Choices for 2001
- A 2002 Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Gold Award

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

"A welcome addition to most libraries."

—*School Library Journal*

"Trapani is a staple for young children—don't miss this one."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

Books Illustrated by Iza Trapani:

The Wedding

By Eve Bunting

"The rhyming verse has a nice easy flow that is perfect for reading aloud, and Trapani's beautifully detailed, fresh country scenes are great for sharing in both intimate and large group settings."

—*Booklist*