



picture story books that explore and illuminate

**Dear Parent or Grandparent, Teacher or Librarian, Bookseller, Book Buyer or Reviewer, and everyone who loves children's books,**

We are very pleased to announce the launch of Flashlight Press, a new publishing house specializing in illustrated children's books. For us, books and flashlights conjure up images of childhood and bedtime stories, exploring and discovering. Our Flashlight Press stories focus on universal themes, illuminate the often touching and humorous moments of family and social interactions, and explore issues like individuality, creativity and growth. But ultimately they are just good, fun reading.

Many of our up-and-coming authors and illustrators are award-winning, and all are incredibly talented.

Spearheaded by talented children's book editor Shari Dash Greenspan, Flashlight Press offers 3 to 4 memorable books annually. Our first two titles, released this Spring 2004, are Holly Bloom's Garden and The Ring Bear.

Flashlight Press titles are available at your favorite bookstore and through your preferred online bookseller. We are honored that Independent Publishers Group (IPG) of Chicago, is our dedicated national distributor.

You can read more about these new and forthcoming titles at [www.FlashlightPress.com](http://www.FlashlightPress.com).

### [Holly Bloom's Garden](#)



Late bloomer Holly yearns to be a great gardener, but doesn't seem to have the knack. In this story of perseverance and self-discovery by Sarah Ashman and Nancy Parent, Holly blossoms when she unearths her true talents and overcomes her "horticultural learning curve" (AP). Finally, realizing that there are many ways to be creative, Holly cultivates her artistic side by "planting" her very own garden made of paper, paste, pipe cleaners and paint. Lush with luminous color illustrations by award-winning illustrator Lori Mitchell, gardens both real and paper burst off the page in the full bloom of spring.

"Perfect for the child struggling to find his or her own talent."  
-Metro Parent Magazine

### [The Ring Bear](#)



In this imaginative adventure by David Slater, a boy transforms himself into a rascally Ring Bear to wreck his mom's upcoming wedding. Fanciful illustrations by S.G. Brooks capture Westley and his mom as the perfect duo - he is the captain and she is first mate on his imaginary pirate ship. Mom's new friend Stan is only allowed on board as a guest. That's Captain's Rule Number One. But what happens when Mom decides to marry Stan and make him a permanent member of the crew? The Ring Bear brilliantly gives voice to a child's confusion in this tender and "delightful tale" (Charlotte Parent Magazine) about the dramas of growing into a new blended family.

Harry Mauer  
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