



Connecting Young Writers with Authors/Illustrators

Encouraging creativity, collaboration,
and outside-the-box approaches to
gifted and talented programs.





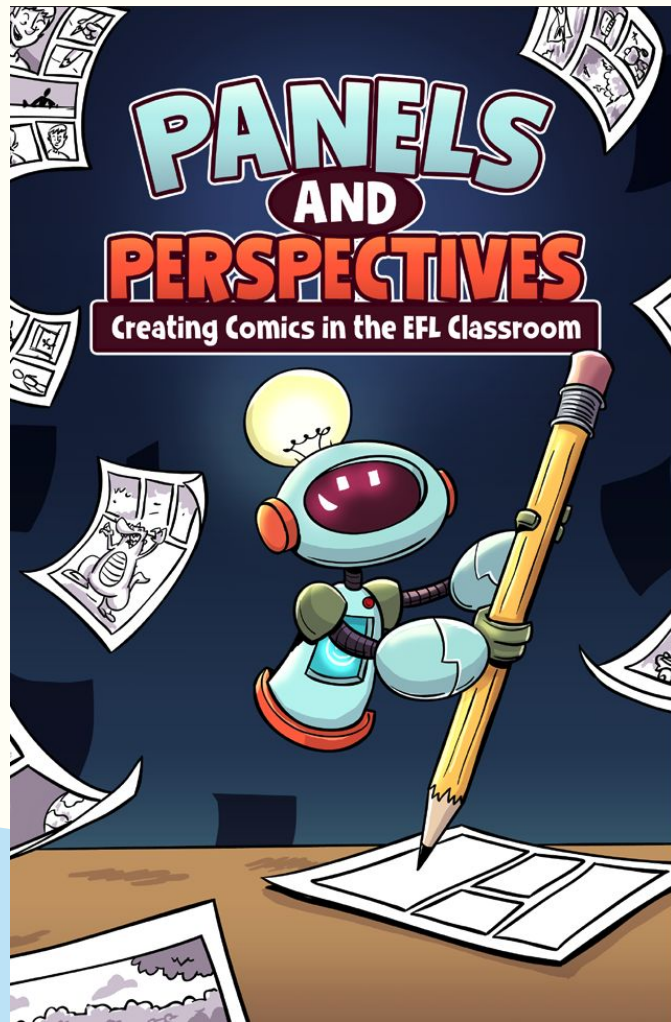
What happens when middle schoolers + become published authors?

AKA: How we stumbled into an organic
“writer-in-residence” program.



A brief introduction

- **An Educator and and a Published Author/Illustrator**
- **Working together since 2018**
- **Different roles, same goal:
Encouraging young authors.**



OFFICE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS
 BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 WASHINGTON, D.C.



U.S. Department of State



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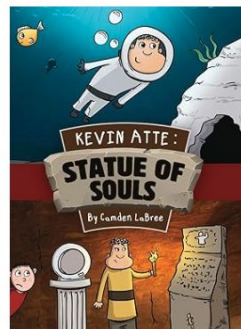
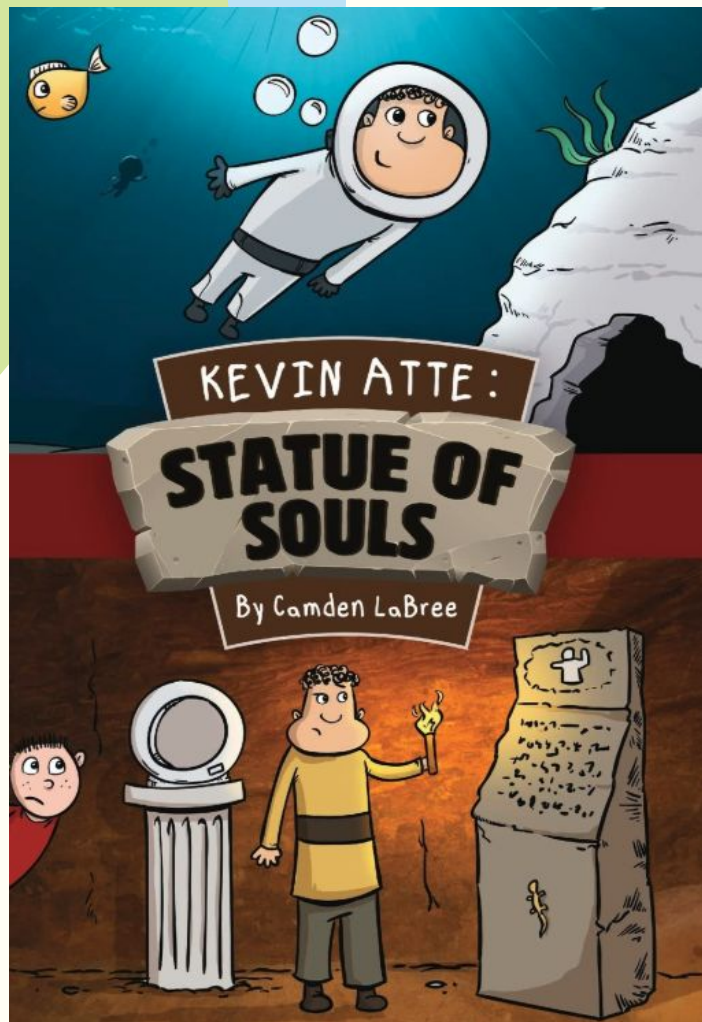
Thinking outside the box...

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Where we started...



Kevin Atte: Statue of Souls Paperback – May 29, 2018

by [Camden LaBree](#) (Author)

5.0 ★★★★★ (6)

Kevin Atte is an adventurous man and aspiring author. When he stumbles upon a plaque describing an ancient artifact with other worldly powers, he decides to turn it into what he hopes to be the next best seller. Unfortunately, it's a flop. Determined to find the treasure, he teams up with the mysterious Sid to track it down. Will they be able to retrieve the artifact and return safely?

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Print length

1

48 pages

Language

English

English

Publication date

May 29, 2018

May 29, 2018

Dimensions

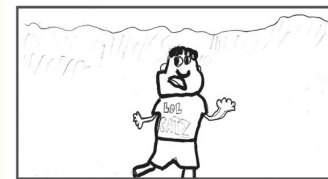
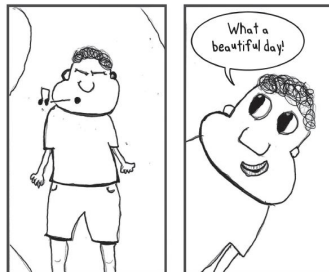
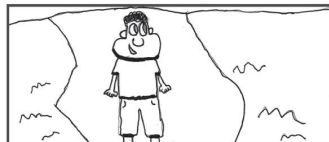
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6 x 0.11 x 9 inches

[See all details](#)

Prologue :

FUE-GO-HAB-LAR
Means : Fire Speaking
An ancient language used



Oscar is stumped.



I can't believe I'm going to be a lumberjack, Oscar Logcutter thought to himself.

Oscar didn't want to be a lumberjack. He knew that it was one of the world's most dangerous jobs, yet, he had no choice but to.

His parents had been in the logging industry for generations. His father had made lots of money being the chief executive for a company that sold equipment to lumberjacks, such as chainsaws and trucks.

Beep. Beep! Oscar's alarm clock went off. He got out of bed like a zombie, his arms and feet seemingly

1

10 more feet to go. Oscar looked up and spotted the hole.

Almost there...

As he had been climbing for a while, he seemed to be climbing without actually thinking about it. Because of this, by the time he realized he couldn't climb anymore, it was too late. After feeling a sticky substance rolling down his sleeves, he looked down to see himself coated in a goo-like liquid. He couldn't move.

Oscar looked down and saw Roscoe standing with his friend. He could hear their endless laughter from 55 feet high.

Roscoe cupped his hands to his mouth and yelled, "That's

The two of the broke out in laughter once again. Oscar diverted his attention from them to the basket. It was five feet above him... a lost cause.

Oscar could feel the rootball slipping from his grasp, yet he didn't mind. If only sap had gotten it onto his hand. It fell the 55 feet, and then landed gently in Roscoe's hands.

"Thanks, Oscar. I've wanted to go against you for a long time, but I've just been so scared! Thank you for giving me the game!"

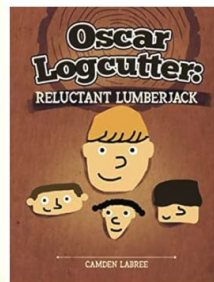
Roscoe took the ball and casually strided to Oscar's goal. Roscoe and his friend were laughing as they scored a point.

Roscoe waved and said, "Have fun hanging out!"

The two of them disappeared into the school. The sap was getting into Oscar's hair.

Oh, great, Oscar thought. I guess I'm stuck here.

Oscar checked his watch. There was 5 more minutes of their free time left. He wondered if anyone one find him before



Oscar Logcutter: Reluctant Lumberjack Paperback – September

10, 2019

by [Camden LaBree](#) (Author)

5.0 ★★★★★ (8)

Oscar Logcutter doesn't want to be a lumberjack, but he is forced to. His family has had a long line of lumberjacks, and his parents want him to be one too. So, Oscar is sent off to lumberjack school. On his first day, he has a run-in with the Lumberjacks, a group of bullies with Roscoe Silvester in the middle. Oscar also meets Reid Wood, who informs him of the lumberjack sport Rootball. Oscar practices for the school championship at the end of the year, but finds out that Roscoe is going to be competing against him. Will Oscar win the rootball championship, and get the hang of lumberjacking?

[Report an issue with this product or seller](#)

Print length

100 pages

Language

English

Publication date

September 10, 2019

Dimensions

5.75 x 0.23 x 7.5 inches

[See all details](#)

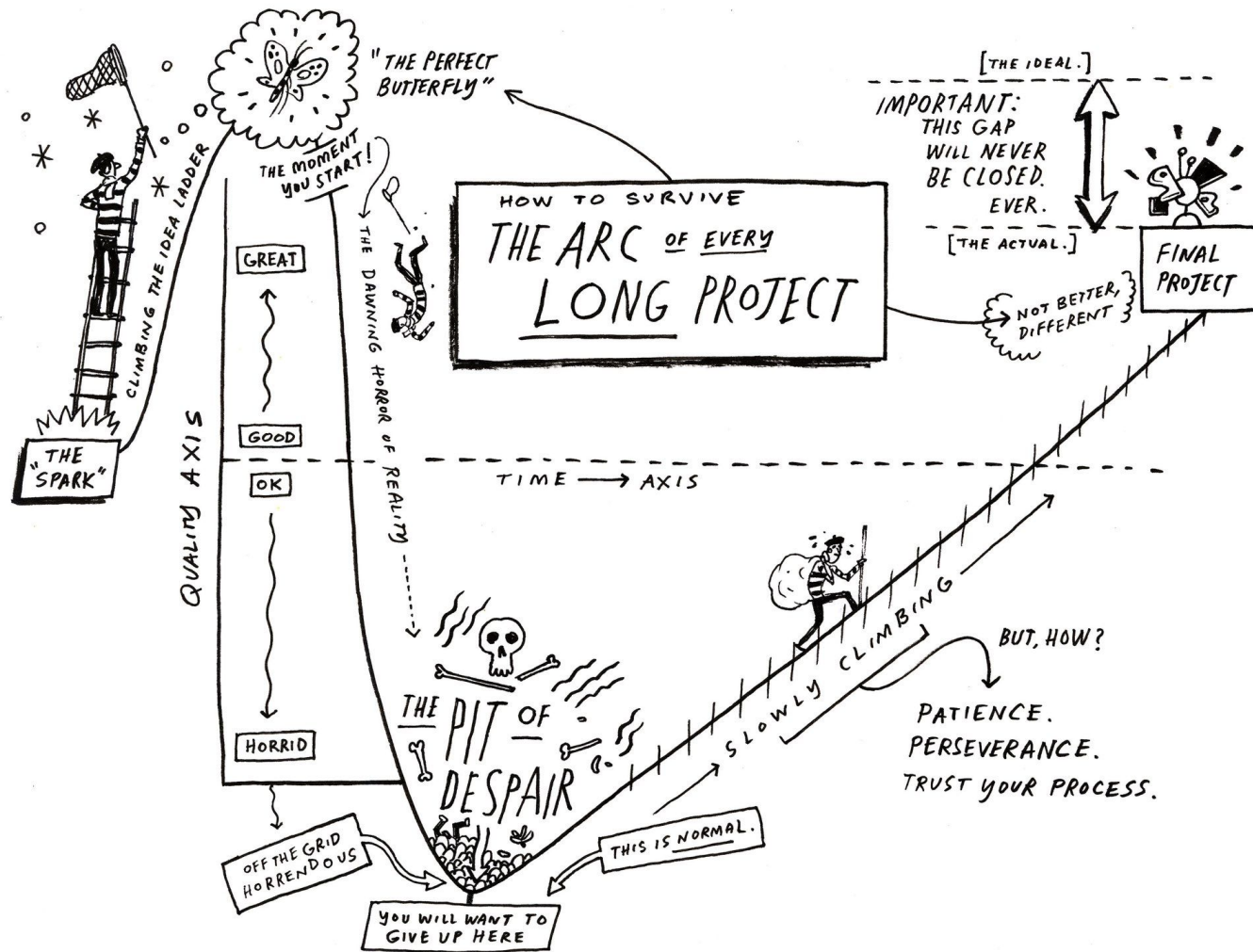




Bree

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Challenges



What we're doing now:



- 13 Students (Two groups)
- Elementary & Middle Grades
- Anthology Project





The importance of collaboration...



Real-world Creative Partnerships Enrich GT Programs

Authors and illustrators bring more than inspiration—they bring process, feedback, and real-world connection.



Meaningful & Memorable

+


"When I was younger, I had the opportunity to create and publish my own books. Collaborating with someone who had already achieved success taught me invaluable lessons about creativity, discipline, and the importance of persistence in bringing my ideas to life. I am thankful for those early experiences and I think it has helped shape me into the person I am today."

~ Camden LaBree





Meaningful & Memorable



As a mother, watching my son work with Josh Alves was an incredible experience. It not only gave him a unique glimpse into the process of creating a book, but it also boosted his confidence in ways I hadn't imagined. Seeing his ideas come to life and watching him navigate the challenges of writing and editing helped him realize his potential as a writer. The opportunity to collaborate with someone who had already achieved so much instilled in him a belief that his own dreams were possible, and it gave him the courage to pursue his passion with determination and self-assurance.

~ Candi LaBree





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Structure + Freedom = Growth

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Independent projects thrive with support.

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Every school can start somewhere – even small!

A long-term partnership might begin with one conversation
or one workshop!

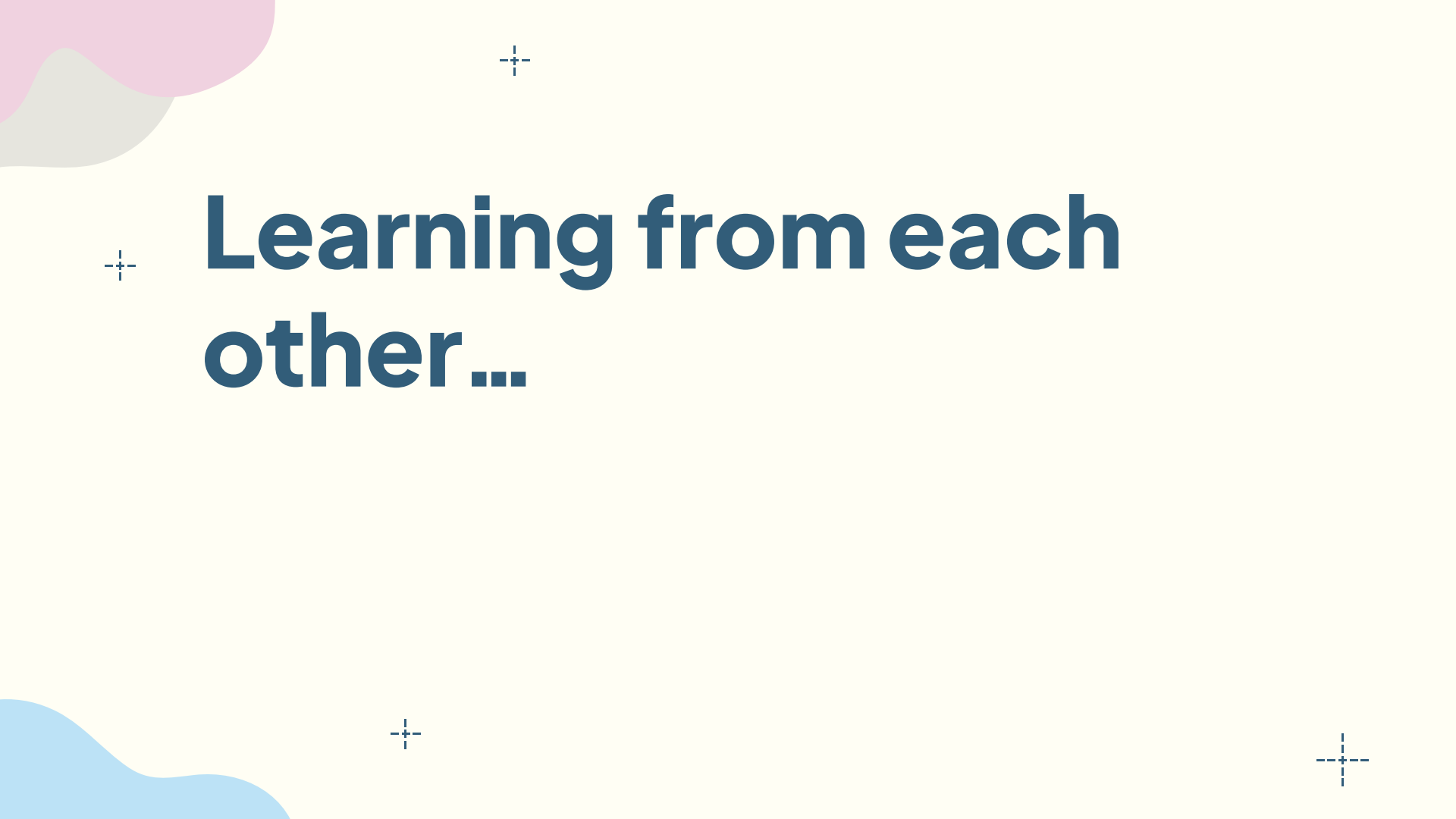


Where do we go from here?



- Author Visits
 - Workshops
 - Intentional Time with Educators
- Virtual Assistance
 - Connecting with local/area creators
 - Establishing long-term connections





+ **Learning from each
other...**



Questions?
Thoughts?



Thank you! +

Do you have any questions?



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