

Betsy (Elizabeth W.) James

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Curriculum Vitae

Education

2017 TESOL Certification, University of New Mexico
2017 TESOL Endorsement, University of New Mexico
2017 MA, Literacy (with distinction), University of New Mexico
2008 Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI)
Martha Weston Grant
2005 Certificate, Advanced Spanish, Instituto Cervantes
1983 Certificate, First Year Course of 120 hours, in Psychosynthesis
(Jungian Counseling), Intermountain Associates for Psychosynthesis
1971 BA cum laude, University of Utah
1966-68 Mount Holyoke College, Sarah Williston Scholar
1966 National Merit Scholar
1966 National Scholastic Writing Awards:
 First place, short-short story
 Second place, essay
 Honorable mention, poetry
 Ernestine Taggard Award for General Excellence

Literary Awards and Honors

Roadsouls, Aqueduct Press, 2016
 2017 Finalist, World Fantasy Award
 2017 Zia Award, New Mexico Presswomen
Listening at the Gate, Atheneum BFYR, 2006
 2006 Tiptree Award Honor Book
 2006 New York Public Library Best Book for the Teen Age
 2006 Starred review, *School Library Journal*
My Chair, Scholastic, 2004
 New York Public Library 100 Best Books, 2004
 International Reading Association Children's Choice 2004
Flashlight, Knopf, 1997
 1998 Junior Library Guild selection
Blow Away Soon, Putnam 1995
 1996 *Child Study Children's Book Committee* Book of the Year
The Mud Family, Putnam/Oxford University Press, 1994
 1995-96 *Our Choice* of the Canadian Children's Book Centre
The Red Cloak, Chronicle Books, 1989

1995-96 National Museum for Women in the Arts,
included in exhibition *Brave Little Girls*
Mary Ann, Dutton Children's Books, 1994
1994 *School Library Journal* Best Book
1995 *Child Study Children's Book Committee*
Book of the Year
Long Night Dance, Dutton Children's Books, 1989
1991 *Voices of Youth Advocates* Best Fantasy

Publications: Writing/Illustration

Books

Young Adult/Adult Novels

Author and Illustrator:

Roadsouls, Aqueduct Press, 2016
Finalist, World Fantasy Award, 2017
Zia Award, New Mexico Presswomen, 2017
Listening at the Gate, Atheneum 2006
Starred review, *School Library Journal*, 2006
Dark Heart, Atheneum 2005
(First published by Dutton Children's Books, 1992)
Long Night Dance, Atheneum 2005
(First published by Dutton Children's Books 1989)
A Voices of Youth Advocates Best Fantasy, 1990

Nonfiction and Poetry

Breathing Stone: Living Small in a Mountain Village:
Placitas, New Mexico in the Early Nineties (working title)
Casa Urraca Press, 2023 (projected publication date)

Picture Books and Middle Grade

Author-Illustrator:

Tadpoles, Dutton Children's Books 1999
Mary Ann, Dutton Children's Books 1994
A 1994 *School Library Journal* Best Book
A 1995 *Child Study Children's Book Committee*
Book of the Year
Natalie Underneath, Dutton Children's Books 1990
The Red Cloak, Chronicle Books 1989
Featured in the 1995-96 National Museum for Women in the
Arts exhibition, *Brave Little Girls: Courageous Girls in*
Children's Picture Books
What's That Room For? Dutton Children's Books 1988

Author:

My Chair, Scholastic/Arthur Levine Books 2004
New York Public Library 100 Best Books, 2004
International Reading Association Children's Choice, 2004

Flashlight, Knopf 1997

A Junior Library Guild selection, 1998

Blow Away Soon, Putnam 1995

A 1996 *Child Study Children's Book Committee*

Book of the Year

The Mud Family, Putnam 1994 (in Canada, Oxford University Press)

Paperback edition, Oxford University Press 1998

1995-96 *Our Choice*, Canadian Children's Book Centre

He Wakes Me, Orchard Books 1991

The Dream Stair, Harper and Row 1990

Illustrator:

The Fireplug is First Base, by P. J. Petersen, Dutton Children's Books 1990

No More Animals!, Dutton Children's Books 1995, by Lucia Monfried

Articles/Short Stories

Author-Illustrator:

"Image to Word: The Morning Series," (featured artist)

The Cascadia Subduction Zone, April 2016

"Hiking the High Desert," *Click (Smithsonian)*, Sept. 2016

"For the Love of Words," *Mothering*, Nov-Dec 2007

"Rock Secrets," *Click (Smithsonian)*, May-Jun 2005

"Crackle, Flash, Boom!" *Click (Smithsonian)*, Apr 2005

"Tata's Coyotes," *Click (Smithsonian)*, Jul-Aug 2003

Author:

"Touch Me All Over," *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, Jan/Feb 2016

"Paradise and Trout," *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, Jul/Aug 2015

"Sweeping the Hearthstone," *Realms of Fantasy*, Oct 2011

"The Good Neighbor," *Realms of Fantasy*, Jun 2008

"Speculative Fiction: Culture Lab," *Southwest Sage*, Vol. 30, No 9

"A Letter from the US: Whip Round," *The Guardian Weekly*, Vol. 188, No. 25

"Embodied: Writing for Kids and Teens," *Southwest Sage*, Vol. 30, No. 6

"Journaling (or Something) in Mexico," *Southwest Sage*, Vol. 29, No. 6

Illustrator:

"Show Me How You Feel," *Mothering*, July-August 2009

"Eco-Savvy Showers," Sept-Oct 2008

"Where Does It Go?" *Click (Smithsonian)*, Jul-Aug 2007

"What Would Mary Poppins Do?" *Mothering*, May-Jun 2007

"Sid the Snake," *Click (Smithsonian)*, Nov-Dec 2006

"Singing the Baby Out," *Mothering*, Sept-Oct 2006

"Lessons in Public Breastfeeding," *Mothering*, May-Jun 2006

"Cooking Up Community," *Mothering*, Mar-Apr 2006

"Holi Hai!," *Click (Smithsonian)*, Nov-Dec 2005

"Jewel on a Journey," *Click (Smithsonian)*, Jul-Aug 2004

"All Night Long," *Click (Smithsonian)*, Feb 2003

"Aunt Gloria's Year," *Click (Smithsonian)*, Aug 2002

- “Coatimundi,” *New Mexico Magazine*, Oct 2001
“Waiting for Luna,” *Click (Smithsonian)*, Sept 2000
“Cowboy Lingo,” *New Mexico Magazine*, May 2000
“An Old-Fashioned Christmas,” *New Mexico Magazine*, Dec 1999
“Starry Nights, Sunlit Mornings,” *The Other Side*, Mar-April 1997
“The Talking Adobe,” *New Mexico Magazine*, Dec 1994
“A Pueblo Indian Child’s Christmas,” *New Mexico Magazine*, Dec 1993
“Eminent Daughters,” *New Mexico Magazine*, Mar 1987
“Lea County’s Ol’ Swimmin’ Hole,” *El Palacio*, Museum of New Mexico Press, Summer 1981
El Palacio (cover), Museum of New Mexico Press, Fall 1977
“From Coronado’s Churros,” *El Palacio*, Museum of New Mexico Press, Spring 1977
“Coplas,” *El Palacio*, Museum of New Mexico Press, Fall 1976
La Confluencia, logo and pp 25&33, Vol. 1 No. 1, Santa Fe 1976

Educational Publications:

Illustrator:

- Georgia’s Big Run*, Jan McPherson, Wendy Pye (NZ) 2008
The Clubhouse Kids Make a Big Difference, DeeDee Hughes, Culver Company 2007
Catching Bailey, Becky Cheston, Houghton Mifflin 2001
Aunt Sarah and the Amazing Power, Wendy Ellyn, Culver Company 2001
Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes (poster), Rigby 2000
We Care, Veronica Freeman Ellis, Houghton Mifflin 1999
Putting It All Together, George M. Jacobs and Michael A. Power, University of Michigan Press 1991
Reader’s Choice, Baudoin, Bober, Clarke, Dobson & Silberstein, University of Michigan Press 1988
Pyramids, Carolyn G. Madden and Susan M. Reinhart, University of Michigan Press 1987
Héctor Tiene Hipo, Lada Kratky, Hampton Brown (n.d.)
The Saturday Club, Holly Melton, Hampton Brown (n.d.)
My Counting Garden, Harcourt (n.d.)
Views from the Past (calendar), Petroglyph National Monument (n.d.)

Book Illustration:

- How To: Multiple Perspectives on Creating a Garden, a Life, Relationships and Community*, Susan McAllister, Jessie Rogers, Wade Patteron eds., Old School Books, Albuquerque, 2012
Pueblos, Spaniards, and the Kingdom of New Spain, John Kessell, University of Oklahoma Press 2010
The Morris Site I Early Navajo Land Use Study, Vols. 1&2 (covers), Douglas D. Dykeman ed., Navajo Nation Papers in Anthropology No. 39, 2003

- Nebel's Elementary Education* (cover), Bernard J. Nebel, Ph.D.,
Nebel's Press for Learning, 2001
- The Word and Picture Books* (18 Titles), Carol Wehrheim, United
Church Press 1998
- New Mexico!*, Marc Simmons, University of New Mexico Press, 1998
- Feasting with God*, Holly W. Whitcomb, United Church Press 1996
- Guide to the Hiking Areas of New Mexico* (cover), Mike Hill,
University of New Mexico Press 1995
- Pregnant Fathers*, Jack Heinowitz, PhD, Parents as Partners Press
1995
- The Word among Us, Year Two* (3 volumes), United Church Press
1995
- Preventing Child Sexual Abuse*, Kathryn Goering Reid, United
Church Press 1994
- Salinas*, David Grant Noble ed., School of American Research 1993
- Pecos Ruins*, David Grant Noble ed., School of American Research
1993
- The Gift of the Gila Monster* (cover), Gerald Hausman, Simon &
Schuster 1993
- A History of New Mexico*, Calvin A. Roberts, PhD. and Susan A.
Roberts, PhD, University of New Mexico Press 1991
- Unregulated Chicken Butts* (cover), Ilyas Halil, University of Utah
Press 1990
- The Short Stories of Fray Angelico Chavez*, Genaro M. Padilla ed.,
University of New Mexico Press 1987
- An Innocent on the Middle Fork*, Eliot DuBois, The Mountaineers
Books, 1987
- Runner in the Sun* (cover), D'Arcy McNickle, University of New
Mexico Press 1987
- I Married a Soldier* (cover), Lydia Spencer Lane, University of New
Mexico Press 1987
- Two Wheels and a Taxi*, Virginia Urrutia, The Mountaineers Books
1987
- Genetics, Environment & Your Baby*, Stirling M. Puck, M.D. and
Jeanie Puleston Fleming, Vivigen, Inc. 1986
- Understanding the Anasazi of Mesa Verde and Hovenweep*, David
Grant Noble ed., School of American Research 1985
- Civics for New Mexicans*, Susan A. Roberts, Ph.D., Betty L. Waugh,
Ph.D., and Anne H. Gonzales, M.A., University of New Mexico Press
1985
- Provincial Matters*, Mary Bess Whidden, University of New Mexico
Press 1985
- Freewheeling*, Gary Ferguson, The Mountaineers Books 1984
- Chalcatzingo: Excavations on the Olmec Frontier*, Dr. David Grove,
Thames and Hudson 1984
- Flea Market America*, Cree McCree, John Muir Publications 1983

Word Processing and Beyond, Fred Stern, John Muir Publications
1983

The Unfolding Self, Molly Young Brown, Psychosynthesis Press
1983

Southwest Indian Drypainting, Leland C. Wyman, School of
American Research 1983

The On and Off the Road Cookbook, Carl Franz and Lorena Havens,
John Muir Publications 1982

La Menopausia, El Proyecto de Santa Fe Sobre Educación del la
Salud 1981

Bandelier, David Grant Noble ed., School of American Research 1980

Rogue! Thomas J. Caperton, Museum of New Mexico Press 1978

Spiritual Care Manual and *Faith Diversity Manual* (covers), SunRise
Health Care (n.d.)

Aromatherapy for You and Your Child (cover), Tara Fellner, Tuttle
(n.d.)

Miscellaneous Illustration:

Exhibitions, Kuaua National Monument, 2014

Exhibitions Division, The Museum of New Mexico, 1975-81

Astrological Moon Calendar, Gretchen Lawlor 1983

Illustrator, the Chalcatzingo Archaeological Project, Mexico

Joint project of the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana
and *El Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia*

Medical illustration for Dr. Willem Kolff, Division of Artificial
Organs, University of Utah

Biological illustration for Dr. George Edmunds, mayfly specialist,
Department of Zoology, University of Utah

Illustration stringer, *The Santa Fe Reporter*, 1975-1984

Editing

Freelance developmental editing, 2002-present

Art/Illustration

Portfolio

Betsy James's art and illustration can be found online at:

www.listeningatthegate.com

www.betsyjames.com

Painting Series

1996-present, *The Guadalupe Series*, 100+ iconic paintings

1986-present *Tithing*, ongoing series

1985-86, *The Morning Series*, 315 narrative paintings

Exhibitions and Galleries

As artist and children's book illustrator, many solo and joint exhibitions of art and
illustration. Most importantly:

2018-present Matteucci Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico:

<https://www.matteucci.com/betsy-james>

- 2018-2020** Taos Fine Art Gallery, Taos, New Mexico
2018 *Far Off the Path*, solo show at City of Albuquerque Open Space Gallery
2014-present Museum of Albuquerque *ArtsThrive* Exhibition
1995-96 Art from *The Red Cloak*, written and illustrated by Betsy James, Chronicle Books 1989, in *Brave Little Girls: Courageous Girls in Children's Picture Books*, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington DC, 1997
1975-86 Exhibition graphics for the Museum of New Mexico: for example, the Palace of the Governors and Coronado National Monument

Teaching and Presenting

- Ongoing since 2014:** Adjunct professor, University of New Mexico Honors College:
Writers' workshops in speculative fiction:
World-building: Designing the Multiverse of Speculative Fiction
Molecules and Metaphor: Truth, Lies, and Other Physics
- Ongoing since 2008:** *SouthWest Writers*: eight-week adult classes in writing fiction:
Working Fiction: Challenges and Peer Critique
Speculative Fiction: Challenges and Peer Critique
Advanced Speculative Fiction
Who's On First?: Point-of-View as Challenges and Peer Critique
- Ongoing since 2012:** *Gateworld*: advanced online classes in speculative fiction
- Ongoing since 1990:** Writer/artist in residence, Young Authors, Zuni Pueblo, NM
- Ongoing since 1990:** Keynotes and workshops for Society for Children's Books Writers and Illustrators; National Reading Association; New Mexico International Reading Association English Expo; National Association for the Education of Young Children; SouthWest Writers; South Valley Academy, Albuquerque; Young Adult Library Services Association; Women Writing the West; Southwest Festival of the Written Word; San Miguel de Allende Writers Conference
- Ongoing since 1990:** Chalk talks and presentations in both English and Spanish, for students of all grades, their parents and teachers, in public and private schools throughout US.
- 2017-2020:** ESL instructor, University of New Mexico Continuing Education
- 2010-12:** Adjunct professor of children's literature, University of New Mexico, Department of Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies
- Summer 2011:** Writers' Workshop, grades pre-K through 5, Zuni Youth Enrichment Project, Zuni Pueblo, New Mexico
- 2009-2011:** San Miguel de Allende Writers' Conference, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico: Two-day writers' workshops for teens (in Spanish)
- 2004-2006:** Artist in residence, *Art, Books, and Community*, National Museum for Women in the Arts, Washington, DC
- 2005:** Workshops in writing and illustrating (in Spanish), *Tequio Pedagógico: Pedagogical Collaboration in Community*, Coalition of Indigenous Teachers and Promoters of Oaxaca, Oaxaca, Mexico
- 2008-2016,** SouthWest Writers Workshops
6-8-week adult classes in writing fiction:
Working Fiction: Challenges and Peer Critique
Imaginal Fiction: Challenges and Peer Critique

Who's On First?: Point-of-View as Challenges and Peer Critique

1990-2016, Workshop facilitator and writer/artist in residence, Zuni Pueblo, NM

1969-71, ESL instructor for “settled migrant” community, Vista, Salt Lake City, UT

Teaching Testimonials

Betsy is trilingual. Her first two languages are English and Spanish; her third is the language of stories. Betsy has worked with us at Zuni Pueblo annually for more than a dozen years, and the way she has helped our often-bilingual students develop their own stories—orally, visually, and in writing—is a marvel!

Charly and Cathy Bullock

Literacy Specialists

A:Shiwi Elementary School

Zuni Pueblo, New Mexico

I have worked with Betsy James at elementary schools with widely diverse populations, and each time I have seen magic performed as she elicits story from them. Whether in English or Spanish, Betsy and the children are alive with the joy of creating story from their own lives and imaginations, and teachers are alive with new possibilities they can carry back to their classrooms.

Lucy Hampson

Instructional Coach

Albuquerque Public Schools

New Mexico

For years Betsy has been an integral part of our annual Young Authors program at the Pueblo of Zuni, where her illustrated approach to writing has helped our bilingual students create imaginative stories not achieved in the regular classroom setting. She would be an asset to any literacy program.

Craig Haneke

Enrichment Specialist

A:Shiwi Elementary School

Zuni Pueblo, New Mexico

Presentations and Panels

Keynotes and presentations at many conferences. Among others:

Zia Awards – New Mexico Presswomen

Young Adult Library Services Association

Women Writing the West

International Reading Association, local and regional

Association for the Education of Young Children

Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators, local and regional

WisCon: Women in Science Fiction and Fantasy Conference

BayCon: Bay Area Science Fiction and Fantasy Conference

SouthWest Writers

Bubonicon: New Mexico Science Fiction and Fantasy Society Conference

Selected presentations

- Bug-Hunting:** How to Catch (and Keep) a Story
Explorers of Inner Space: Access to Imagination in Fantasy
Innocence and Experience: Using Your Own Uncertainties as a Springboard to Writing for Children
Literacy is Conversation: Moving from Personal Story to Writing and Illustration
The River Always Runs: Fantasy Writing for Young (and Not-So-Young) Adults
Soul-Making: Writing Young Adult Fantasy
The Turkey's Tail is On Fire!: Igniting Creative Potential in Writing
Vision to Word: The Morning Series to the Seeker Chronicles
Whazzup?: Openness to Natural Plot
Gossip: Gateway to Literacy
Finding the Gate: Fresh Thresholds to Literacy
For the Love of Words: Growing a Natural Writer

Employment

- 2014-present:** Adjunct professor, University of New Mexico Honors College,
2017-20: ESL instructor, UNM Continuing Education
1975-present: Freelance writer and illustrator
1974-75: Assistant manager, Cable's Books, Santa Fe, NM
1973-74: Archaeological illustrator, University of Champaign-Urbana and *INAH* (*Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia*), Chalcatzingo, Morelos, Mexico
1971-73: Clerk, Sam Weller's Zion Books, Salt Lake City, Utah
1969-71: Work study student for Dr. Willem Kolff (inventor of the artificial kidney and heart), Division of Artificial Organs, University of Utah
1967: Illustrator for Dr. George Edmunds, mayfly specialist, Department of Zoology, University of Utah

Memberships and Associations

- First Fridays Writers' Forum
Bubonicon Science Fiction and Fantasy Conference
ACLU
Formerly:
SouthWest Writers
Picture Book Writers and Illustrators Association

Other Interests

Backcountry desert hiking

Website

www.betsyjames.com