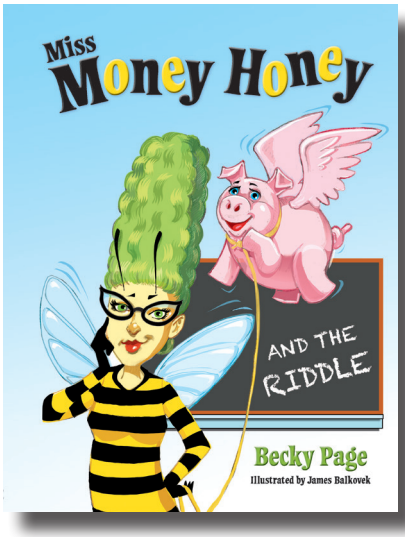
Miss Money Honey and the Riddle



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORMER SCHOOLTEACHER AND EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR, BECKY PAGE, TEACHES HOW TO VALUE OTHERS BY COMBINING LESSONS IN MONEY MANAGEMENT AND BULLYING IN *MISS MONEY HONEY AND THE RIDDLE*

From the creative mind of educational administrator Becky Page comes a new heartwarming tale of courage in the face of bullying in *Miss Money Honey and the Riddle* (Brown Books Publishing Group).Page's characters and their interactions teach the importance of treating others with kindness and respecting their differences.

Miss Money Honey and the Riddle follows the story of Jimmy, a young student who faces challenges on his first day of school. When Jimmy notices his classmate Benny being bullied, he wonders what he can do to help his friend and how to stand up to the bullies. He has also been tasked by his teacher, Miss Honeybee, to create a riddle for the next day's class.

That night, Jimmy has the strangest dream about a bee named Miss Money Honey and her flying piggy bank. Miss Money Honey introduces him to Penny Lenny – who seems similar to Jimmy's friend Benny in real life. Could this dream be the answer to all the problems Jimmy is facing? In this charming story, he learns not only how to count and value money, but also how to stand up to bullies, for himself, and for his friend.

"I saw bullying problems even at the earliest grade levels," Page states. "In raising my own children, I realized the need for early intervention tools that could provide awareness for bullying at the elementary school level."

Bridging the subjects of money and bullying, Page writes to affirm children's self-worth and empower them to speak up. She is a spokesperson for the bullied child that is too afraid to speak about being bullied.

"I hope this book will offer children the understanding of what bullying looks like in a real setting and teach them that it is okay to speak up and tell a teacher or parent about a bullying situation and not to take it into their own hands by trying to stop the bullies alone," says Page.

For more information about *Miss Money Honey and the Riddle* and the author, please visit www.missmoneyhoney.com.

MEDIA CONTACT:
INFO@MISSMONEYHONEY.COM

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Miss Money Honey and the Riddle
Becky Page| 978-1-61254-319-2| $16.99
Juvenile Fiction/Social Themes/Bullying
www.missmoneyhoney.com

About The Author

Becky Page has an extensive background in education, theater and finance. She has worked as a schoolteacher, curriculum writer and educational administrator. She is the founding Executive Director of the Academy of Finance of the Spring Branch Independent School District (SBISD) and has held the following other positions: Executive Director of the SBISD Education Foundation, Executive Director of the Masquerade Theatre of Houston and interim Executive Director for the Queensbury Theatre Company. Becky Page also helped initially build a fee-only financial counseling and trust company. She has served on many philanthropic boards and is currently the founding Executive Director for the nonprofit Financial Knowledge Foundation for Children.

In this book, she combines her passion for educating children about finances, her awareness of the negative impact of bullying, and her lifelong love and involvement with music. She hopes *Miss Money Honey and the Riddle* will help introduce young children to the fundamental principles of monetary values and give them insight into possible resolutions for what she terms a bullying epidemic.

Page currently resides in Texas with her husband. They have four children and six grandchildren. When she is not writing or speaking in public, Page enjoys sitting beside a campfire and experiencing nature with her family and friends.

Becky Page or the Miss Money Honey character are available for book signings, guest appearances, interviews and public speaking engagements.

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Q & A With The Author

1. Who or what influenced you to write this children's book, *Miss Money Honey and the Riddle*?

Statistics I have read state that one in four children at the elementary age are either bullied or bully others. I felt bullying had become an epidemic that is not really being addressed with our young children. From my experience as an elementary school teacher, raising children of my own and now having grandchildren, I wanted to give young children a book that had characters they could relate to on their own cognitive level in order to give them the opportunity to learn what bullying is and suggest how to handle it from their perspective.

2. What inspired you to combine lessons on money concepts and bullying in this first book?

I wanted to introduce young children to the coins and dollar bills. The penny was the first coin I wanted to write about. The penny's value of one cent is the basis for all other coins, which gives the penny special importance. Yet, because the penny is different than the rest of the coins in appearance and has the lowest value, it created the perfect scenario for a bullying situation to occur between it, the other coins and the dollar bill.

3. How does Jimmy's dream about money relate to the bullying in the story?

Since Jimmy is worried about his friend Benny, who is bullied at school, Jimmy's dream introduces him to Miss Money Honey and Penny Lenny. In the dream, Jimmy discovers that Penny Lenny is also in a similar situation and is being bullied, but Miss Money Honey does something to stop it. She inspires Jimmy to stick up for his friend, and gives an appropriate resolution to the bullying problem.

4. Like Jimmy, have you ever experienced a difficult or unjust situation in which you had to stand up for a friend or family member?

Someone very close to me was bullied in school, it was difficult as a girl to stand up to the bullies because I did not have the tools to deal with it. We as children were told to "handle it ourselves," which only compounded the problem. Being a "tattletale" in going to the authorities, like our teacher or parents, was not seen as a good thing from a social standpoint; therefore the bullying sutuation continued secretly.

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5. How do you envision this book's role as an educational tool?

I hope this book will give teachers, parents, and counselors a tool to use in helping children realize what bullying is and also an opportunity to talk about it at their level of understanding.

6. Ultimately, what message do you hope your book, Miss Money Honey and the Riddle, will offer to children and their parents?

I hope this book will offer children the understanding of what bullying looks like in a real setting and teach them that it is okay to speak up and tell a teacher or parent about a bullying situation and not to take it into their own hands by trying to stop the bullies alone. I hope parents will convey to their children that the negativity that surrounds being a "tattle-tale" has changed to children becoming "heroes" for telling a teacher or parent about bullying. Then it will be up to our parents, teachers, and counselors to define the process of handling and resolving bullying situations at the adult level.

ABOUT THE "MISS MONEY HONEY BOOK SERIES" TO COME:

What values would you like parents of young children to learn from the Miss Money Honey series?

My books will not only introduce the primary monetary concepts but also communicate life lessons on the child's level for his or her well-being. The books will involve situations and characters that young children can easily relate to. I hope parents and educators will use my books to help them provide non-threatening and comfortable environments for their children to feel free to express themselves.

Will Miss Money Honey return with more important life lessons in the future?

Yes, Miss Money Honey and her piggybank, the coins, and dollar bill friends will appear in the book series, teaching children life lessons, such as being self-confident and self-accepting, appreciative for the things in life one has, being honest, being a good friend, and teamsmanship. Currently I am partnering with a Broadwaay Composer/Lyricist in writing a childrens' musical based on the Miss Money Honey characters and the *Miss Money Honey* story.

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"While simply and masterfully teaching the value of the penny, this book also teaches how to be a good friend, with acceptance and respect for all."

-ERNIE MANOUSE
Emmy Award-winning Anchor/Producer, PBS

"What a delightful way to introduce young children to the fact that one's value should not be based on the way they look."

-CECE THOMPSON
Philanthropist and Executive Director, Spring Branch Education Foundation

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Excerpts

"I know they scare you, Benny. But you won't have to be scared of those bullies anymore, I promise!"
- Miss Money Honey and the Riddle

"Jimmy felt sorry for Benny, but he didn't know what to do. Dolly and Porter continued to laugh and point their fingers at Benny."
- Miss Money Honey and the Riddle

"I know, Benny. It makes me mad when they treat you that way. But you have me as your friend."
- Miss Money Honey and the Riddle

"How am I going to stop Porter and Dolly from being mean to Benny? It looks like they like to hurt his feelings and make him sad. Jimmy didn't want to get anyone in trouble, but he had to think of away to stop the bullying."
- Miss Money Honey and the Riddle

"Wow, it's a lost penny. And it's a copper color, not silver like the other coins, so that means it's different. And it's worth one cent, so it has the smallest value in money. And yet all the other coins and dollar bills are made up of pennies, so a penny is very important!"
- Miss Money Honey and the Riddle

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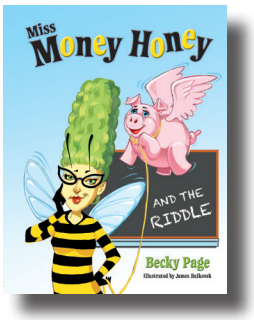

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Synopsis

After a long first day of school, Jimmy has a lot on his mind. His friend Benny is being picked on by other classmates, and Jimmy wonders how he can help. His teacher, Miss Honeybee, told them to bring a riddle to the class tomorrow, and he cannot come up with one. But through a strangely helpful dream he experiences that night, Jimmy might find all the answers he needs....

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