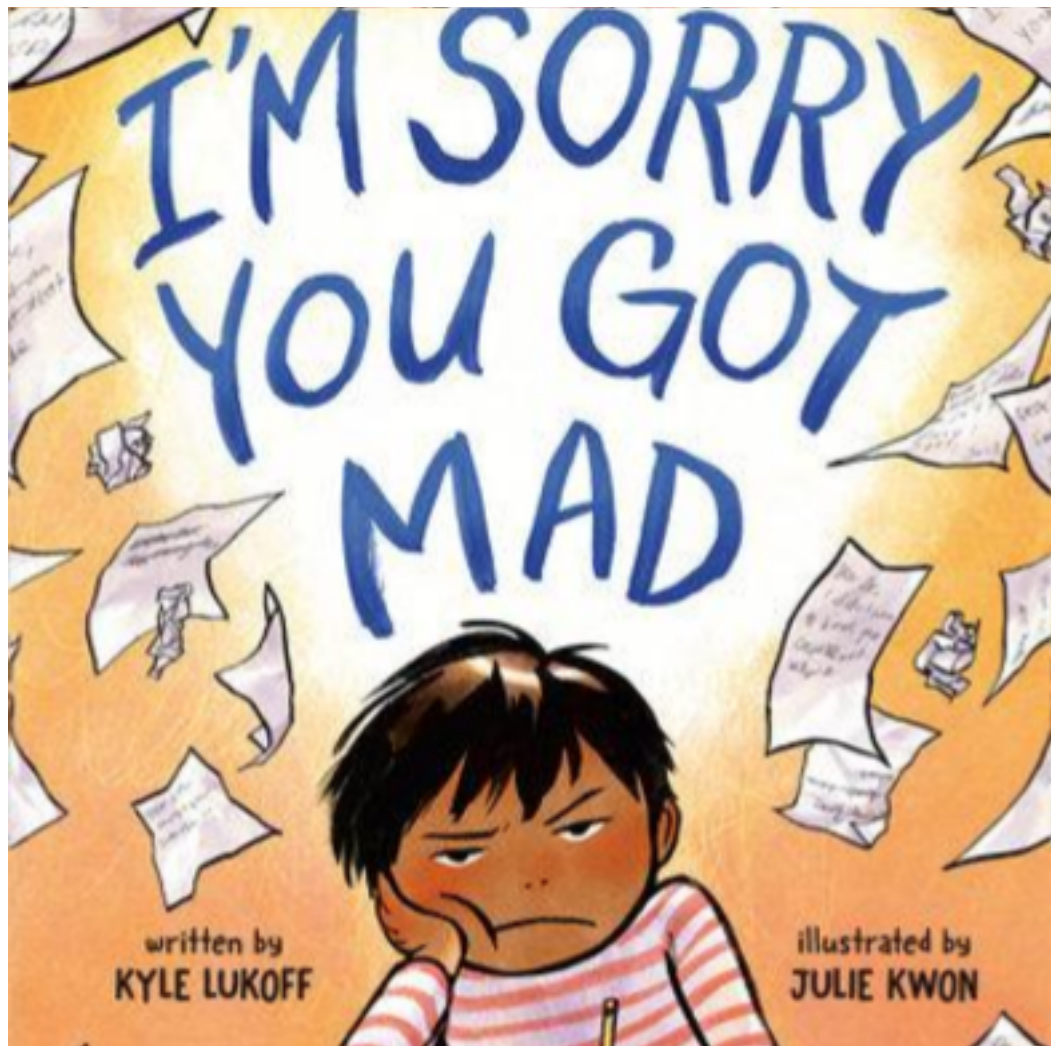




'Tis the Season...for READING!

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**READ**



## **MY FAVORITE 2024 PICTURE BOOK**

*I'm Sorry You Got Mad* by Kyle Lukoff, illus. by Julie Kwon (Dial Books). It's about writing an apology, and the entire story is told in notes, which I love! And this kid...he makes mistakes, like we all do. And eventually he learns.

Remember *No, David!* by David Shannon? This book is tender-funny-true, kinda like that.

Hey! *I'm Sorry You Got Mad* would be a great book to pair with *The Mistakes That Made Us*:

*Confessions from Twenty Poets* selected by Irene Latham & Charles Waters, illus. by Mercè Lopez (Carolrhoda, 2024)! :)

Another favorite picture book this year?

*Climbing the Volcano: A Journey in Haiku* by Curtis Manley, illus. by Jennifer K. Mann (Neal Porter, 2024). It has a magical feel to it that reminds me of *A Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats. And told in 50 (!) haiku. Cool!

[CLICK TO READ MORE ABOUT CLIMBING THE VOLCANO: A JOURNEY IN HAIKU.](#)

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# FAVORITE ADULT BOOKS

## **MEMOIR**

*The Backyard Bird Chronicles* by Amy Tan

*The Comfort of Crows* by Margaret Renkl

*Life, Camera, Action* by Mitchell Burns

## **FICTION**

*Slow Dance* by Rainbow Rowell

*The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert

*Let Us Descend* by Jessmyn Ward

*Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus

*The Things We Leave Unfinished* by Rebecca Yarros

## **POETRY-ish**

*Glass Cabin* by Tina Mozelle Braziel & James Braziel

*Consolations: The Solace, Nourishment, and Underlying*

*Meaning of Everyday Words* by David Whyte

## **HEALTH & WELLNESS**

*The Great Pain Deception* by Steven Ozanich

*You Can Heal Your Life* by Louise Hay

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LOVE



## MIDDLE GRADE/ YOUNG ADULT

CONTEMPORARY NOVELS (ALL feature characters who are foster kids!)

*The Tenth Mistake of Hank Hooperman* by

Gennifer Choldenko

*Tig* by Heather Smith

*Sync* Ellen Hopkins

LOVE STORIES

*Divine Rivals* by Rebecca Ross

*24 Seconds from Now* by Jason Reynolds

HISTORICAL FICTION

*The Songbird and the Rambutan Tree* by Lucille

Abendanon

*One Big Open Sky* by Lesa Cline-Ransome

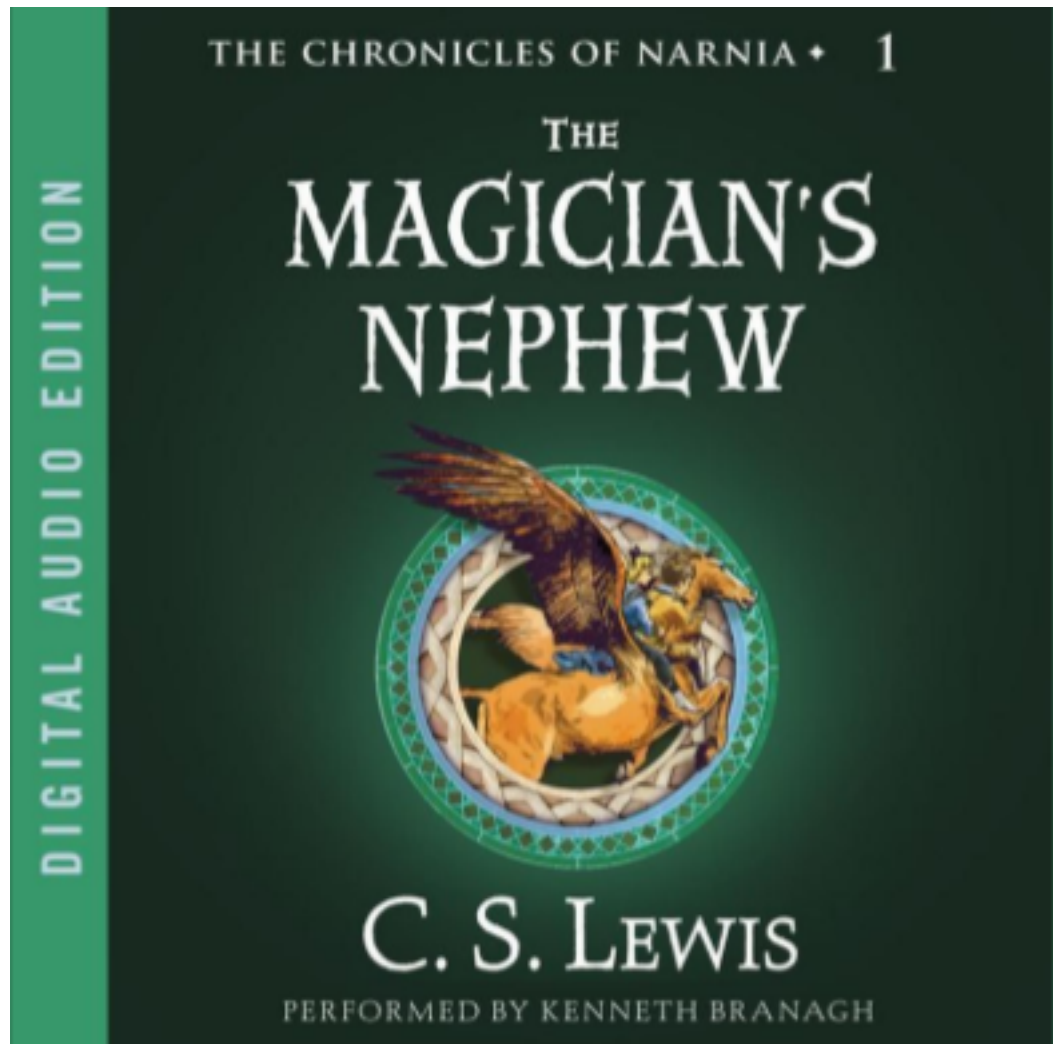
POETRY

*Grace Notes: Poems About Families* by Naomi

Shihab Nye

**[SEE MY TOP 3 READS LIST AT SHEPHERD.COM](http://SHEPHERD.COM)**

**LISTEN**



## **CLASSIC BOOK I REVISITED**

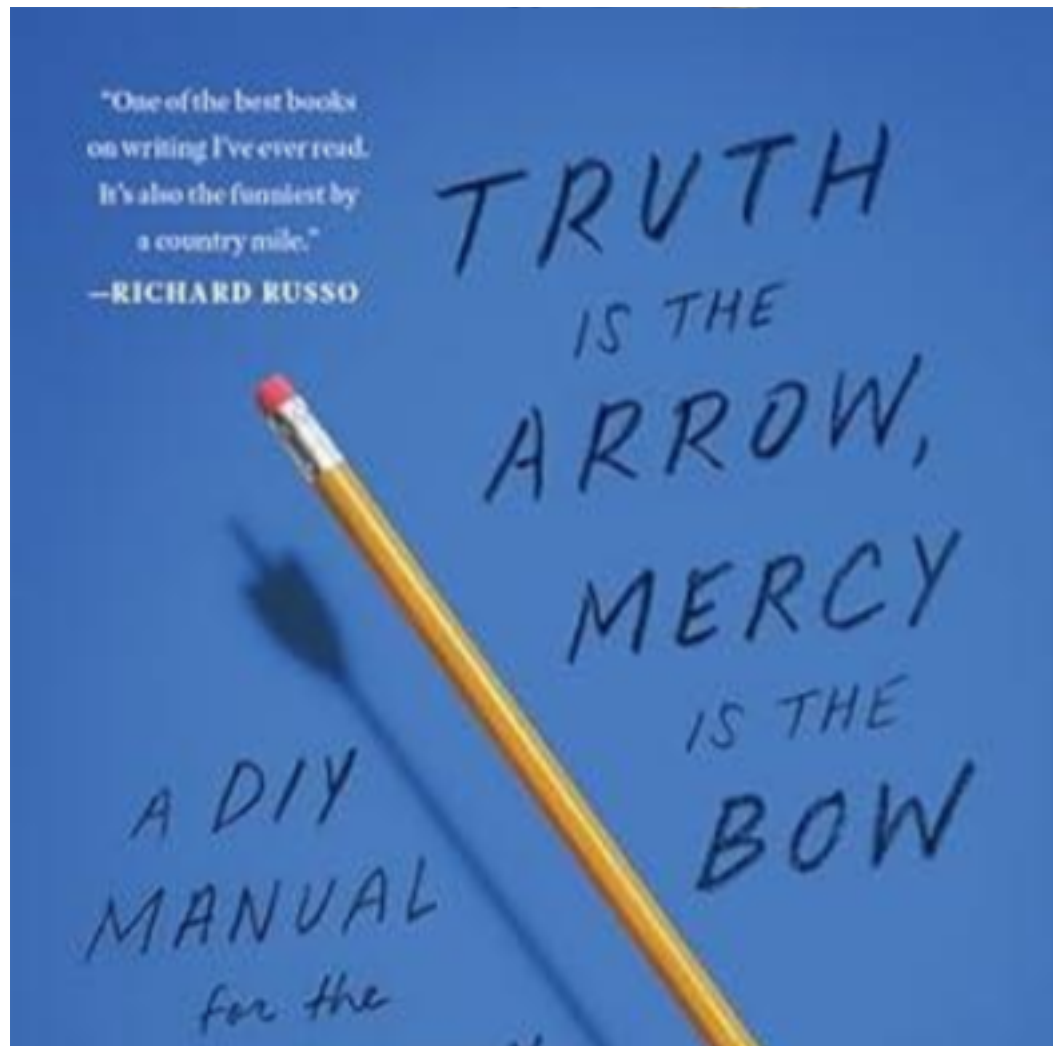
Every year I make sure I re-read at least one book beloved from childhood. This year I chose an audio version of *THE MAGICIAN'S NEPHEW* from the *Chronicles of Narnia* series by C.S. Lewis. (I had forgotten the history of the wardrobe door, so that was an especially wonderful moment!)

**NEXT CLASSIC I'M (RE)READING**





# LEARN



## WRITING CRAFT BOOKS

*Truth is the Arrow, Mercy is the Bow: A DIY Manual for the Construction of Stories* by Steve Almond.

This book was recommended to me by Kerry Madden-Lunsford, who is is such a generous teacher-friend-author! I dog-eared so many pages...good stuff.

**GET YOUR COPY**



# HAPPY HOLIDAY READING!

If your shopping list includes any of my books, THANK YOU!  
*I am happy to send along signed bookplates to make the gift  
extra-special. Email your request and mailing address to  
irene@irenelatham.com.*

Love,  
  
Irene



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