



Bebop Books, an imprint of LEE & LOW BOOKS
95 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016
bebopbooks.com

Writer's Guidelines

Bebop Books is currently accepting manuscripts for beginning readers with multicultural themes. **Manuscripts will be accepted from August 1, 2004 through October 1, 2004 and must be postmarked within that period.**

Leveled books are used by teachers to help young children develop early reading skills and strategies. Each book is a 16 or 24-page paperback, with full color illustrations or photographs and a story specifically written and illustrated to support 5- to 7-year-olds in their efforts to begin reading. The stories should fit within Fountas and Pinnell's Guided Reading™ levels H-J and Intervention (Reading Recovery®) levels 13-18 (see guidelines below).

We are looking for realistic fiction and nonfiction stories that feature young children of color. We prefer stories that are culturally specific, that is, the content of the story relates specifically to a particular culture or ethnic group, but stories about universal childhood experiences are also acceptable.

Of particular interest for this list:

- thematic poetry collections or anthologies
- photo-essays
- character-driven stories
- stories that incorporate concepts such as simple math, science, or social studies

GUIDELINES FOR TEXT DEVELOPMENT

Stories for Guided Reading™ level H / Intervention (Reading Recovery®) levels 13-14 should have the following characteristics:

- Topics that are familiar to young children
- A single, clear, well-supported sequence of events
- Use of some longer sentences, but with some sentence predictability
- Use of some challenging vocabulary
- Limited repetition in text
- Full range of punctuation may be used; may also include dialogue
- Other book features may include: table of contents, glossary, and/or scientific terms

COMPLETE STORY CONTAINS 150-300 WORDS

Stories for Guided Reading™ level I / Intervention (Reading Recovery®) levels 15-16 should have the following characteristics:

1. Topics may range beyond the familiar to high-interest topics that extend a child's knowledge
- Story lines and story patterns are more complex
 - One main plot; problems may be presented and solved
 - Text becomes more inferential; characters' actions and story events require some interpretation

2. May include some challenging and/or scientific vocabulary
- Full range of punctuation; punctuation supports phrasing and meaning
 - Longer sentences; greater variety in use of dialogue
 - Other book features may include: labels, captions, maps, charts

COMPLETE STORY CONTAINS 200–350 WORDS

Stories for Guided Reading™ level J / Intervention (Reading Recovery®) levels 17–18 should have the following characteristics:

- High-interest topics that extend a child's knowledge
- Story lines may be more complex; one main plot with a few episodes over time
- Increased details in descriptions of characters and settings
- Use of familiar as well as challenging vocabulary
- Full range of punctuation; punctuation supports phrasing and meaning
- Longer sentences; greater use of dialogue and literary language structures
- Other book features may include: captions, diagrams, headings

COMPLETE STORY CONTAINS 250–500 WORDS

We are especially interested in submissions from writers and artists of color.

Writer Submission Instructions

Submissions must be sent by regular mail (please, **no email submissions**) and accompanied by a cover letter with some information about your background. A self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) must also be included for the return of your manuscript if it is not accepted for publication.

Reporting time is within four months. Questions regarding the status of a submission after four months should be made in writing to the address below. Please **DO NOT** call. We regret that due to the large quantity of submissions, we cannot guarantee a personal response.

All materials should be sent to:

BEBOP BOOKS, SUBMISSIONS
95 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10016

*Please note: Because of recent terrorist acts involving the US mail, submissions without a return address will be discarded without being opened.

If you would like a copy of our catalog, please send a 9" x 12" SASE with \$1.98 postage to Bebop Books, Attn: Catalog Request.