

BOOKS

## Novel Enchantments

Stories for the young and the young at heart **BY MEAGAN WEHE**

With the arrival of the holidays, many beautiful books become available for the budding bibliophile. The following sampling of recently released books will entertain children from a wide age range, along with adults reading aloud.

### A POEM FOR PETER

By *Andrea Davis Pinkney*; Pictures by *Lou Fancher and Steve Johnson*; Viking  
 Pinkney's lyrical biography tells the story of picture-book pioneer Ezra Jack Keats and his artistic dreams—dreams that would embolden generations to come.

### ADA TWIST, SCIENTIST

By *Andrea Beaty*; Illustrated by *David Roberts*; Abrams Books for Young Readers  
 In this story inspired by groundbreaking women researchers, the character Ada takes her family—and readers—through a series of explorations driven by her continually asking, "Why?"

### ATLAS OF ANIMAL ADVENTURES

By *Rachel Williams and Emily Hawkins*; Illustrated by *Lucy Letherland*; Wide Eyed Editions  
 Pairing facts with vivid illustrations, Williams, Hawkins and Letherland have created a fantastic oversize book for young animal enthusiasts.

### THE GREAT SPRUCE

By *John Duvall*; Illustrated by *Rebecca Gibbon*; G.P. Putnam's Sons  
 An apt tale for the season, this brightly illustrated story tells of a giant tree transported live to the city for holiday celebrations—and then returned and replanted in the place where it grew up.

### MORE BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

- ▶ **The Biggest Smallest Christmas Present** By *Harriet Muncaster*; G.P. Putnam's Sons. *Clementine*, "the smallest girl in the world," makes the most of regular toys but hopes for a gift better suited to her size.
- ▶ **Brave Little Finn** By *John and Jennifer Churchman*; Little, Brown and Company. Valuable lessons drawn from the life of the authors' real-life lamb, Finn.
- ▶ **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets: The Illustrated Edition** By *J.K. Rowling*; Illustrated by *Jim Kay*; Scholastic. Kay's renderings interpret Rowling's magical world with an enthralling style.
- ▶ **Return** By *Aaron Becker*; Candlewick Press. A young girl revisits a magical land in this third book of Becker's richly painted, wordless adventure series.

