



Delacorte Press

Delacorte Press is the winner of the 2018 (Mildred L.) Batchelder Award for *The Murderer's Ape*, written and illustrated by Jakob Wegelius and translated from the Swedish by Peter Graves.

Beverly Horowitz, Senior Vice President & Publisher, Delacorte Press, Random House Children's, delivered these acceptance remarks at the ALSC Awards Program on Monday, June 25, 2018, during the American Library Association Annual Conference.

For more information about the Batchelder Award, visit <http://bit.ly/batchelder-award>.



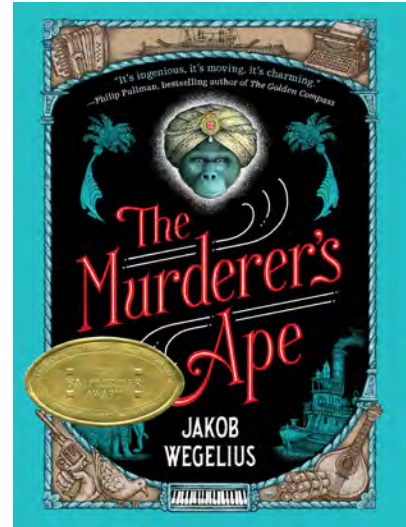
Batchelder

AWARD ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

For many of us who have been in publishing for decades, the prevailing sentiment has been that books in translation will not sell here in the U.S. because the authors are unknown. Books in translation are too often ignored, so it is with appreciation and pride that I accept this award today for publishing *The Murderer's Ape* by Jakob Wegelius.

Publishing a "foreign novel" allows readers access to literature written in another language, of course. But more important, it allows us to see the world from a new perspective, and to consider new ideas that might open our minds. Translations make what might not be familiar newly accessible.

We know that literature is a reflection of life and a source of learning as well as entertainment. It is wonderful to cross borders and cultures, sitting in an armchair, in a classroom, or in a library, simply by opening a book. Being introduced to a wide array of social and cultural relationships is vital to gaining understanding, tolerance, and empathy for others. As an editor and publisher, I look for books that offer readers insight into and appreciation of people we might not be able to communicate with on our own. Customs, traditions, attitudes, even prejudices are woven into books, and for readers, the opening of closed doors is often a revelation and a source of joy.



I will share with you that at the Bologna Book Fair in 2014, it was the art that first drew me to this work, as I do not read Swedish. I asked for the novel to consider, and I received a partial, limited section in translation. *The Murderer's Ape* has that extra-special secret sauce of also having been typed out by the gorilla Sally Jones, on a typewriter, no less! Wegelius's story is a thrilling adventure as well as a captivating novel about dark truths and unexpected friendships.

It was an award winner in other countries, and now we in the U.S. have the opportunity to read, share, and re-read this novel, and again, I thank you for recognizing the significance of Jakob Wegelius's *The Murderer's Ape*.

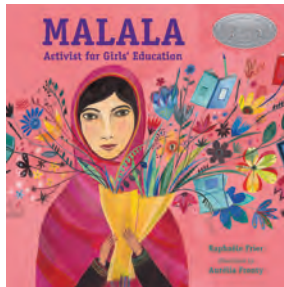
Delacorte Press is an imprint of Random House, a Penguin Random House company. Delacorte Press was founded in 1921 by George T. Delacorte, Jr., and originally published pulp magazines, detective stories, and articles about movies before becoming a full-service house, producing original works of fiction.



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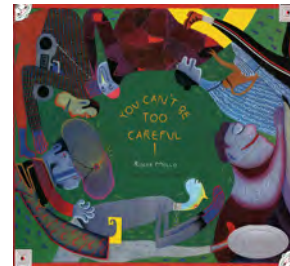
2018 BATCHELDER HONOR BOOKS



Malala: Activist for Girls' Education
Raphaële Frier
Illus. by Aurélia Fronty
Trans. from the French
by Julie Cormier
Charlesbridge



When a Wolf Is Hungry
Christine Naumann-Villemin
Illus. by Kris Di Giacomo
Trans. from the French by Eerdmans
Eerdmans Books for Young Readers



You Can't Be Too Careful!
Roger Mello
Illus. by the author
Trans. from the Portuguese
by Daniel Hahn
Elsewhere Editions



Association for Library Service to Children

For more information about
the Batchelder Award, visit
<http://bit.ly/batchelder-award>.

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