

## Dear Reader:

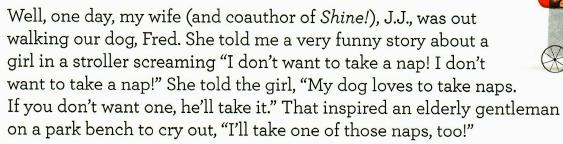
Welcome to my very first picture book!



A few years ago, both our neighbors in our New York City apartment building had baby girls. Annalise on the right; Devin on the left. I would go to events and festivals to promote my books for upper-elementary and middle-grade readers, and come home with a stack of autographed picture books to give to my newest, tiniest neighbors.



Since both girls had pretty unusual names, I started thinking that I might have to be the one to, someday, write a picture book with their names in it.



And that was the seed that grew into *No More Naps!* featuring Annalise Devin McFleece (neither of our neighbors are the McFleeces, but I couldn't resist the rhyme).



Imagine my delight when Random House married the brilliant (and fun) Leo Espinosa's pictures to my text. I've read this book at least ten dozen times, and I am always finding something new in his clever illustrations.

For instance, if you look closely, you will find a self-portrait of our artist, Leo, on two of the pages. And, if you look even closer, you might find an illustration of me. Hint: I did write a book called *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's LIBRARY*!

Thank you so much for looking at our new book.

I hope it makes you, and someone you love, very sleepy!



Chris Grabenstein



