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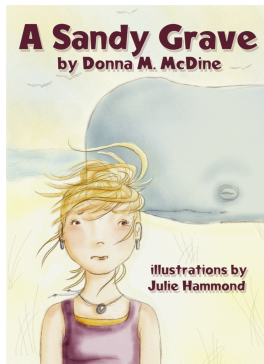
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Whale Poacher Children's Book, *A Sandy Grave* Earns Story Monster Approval

CHANDLER, AZ (June, 2014) – The judges of the Story Monster Approved program, which recognizes accomplished authors in the field of children's literature have spoken, and *A Sandy Grave* by Donna M. McDine and illustrated by Julie Hammond has earned approval.



Title: *A Sandy Grave*

Category: Chapbooks for Tweens

Author: Donna M. McDine www.donnamcdine.com

Illustrator: Julie Hammond www.juliehammondart.com

Hardcover ISBN: 9781616334543; 1616334541

Softcover ISBN: 9781616334550; 161633455X

eBook ISBN: 9781616334567; 1616334568

About *A Sandy Grave*: The anticipation of summer vacation can put anyone in a great mood with the excitement of adventures to be had--especially at the beach. But what is a group of friends to do when they discover mysterious men poaching whale teeth at the beach?

About the Author: Donna McDine is a multiple award-winning children's author. She writes and moms from her home in the historical hamlet Tappan, NY. McDine is a member of the SCBWI and Family Reading Partnership. Learn more about McDine's writing career at www.donnamcdine.com and www.donna-mcdine.blogspot.com.

The colorful, kid-friendly Story Monster Approved seal attracts the attention of young readers much more than a sticker intended for adult scrutiny. Kids know when they see the Story Monster Approved patch it means children their own age enjoyed the book and are recommending they read it, too. How do they know that? Because after books pass the first round of rigorous judging – which is done by industry experts, the books are then judged by a panel of youth judges who must also endorse the books before they can receive the official seal of approval.

"Who better to judge children's books than the children who read them?" explains Linda F. Radke, president of Five Star Publications, Inc., the same company that launched the [Dragonfly Book Awards](#) program, now in its fourth year. "Judging these books gives children a wonderful sense of importance and responsibility. Some of our judging coordinators have told us that students who usually don't enjoy reading or have difficulty reading have gotten a much-needed boost due to their judging responsibilities and have requested to serve as judges again."

Authors interested in having their books considered for Story Monster Approved designation should visit www.StoryMonsters.com and download an entry form. Books are divided into the following categories with distinctions made between fiction and nonfiction: Preschool to Kindergarten, Grades 1-3, and Grades 4-6.

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Full Media Kit, Headshot, Book Cover Art and more are available upon request.