



ICL INSTITUTE OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
FOUNDED 1969

MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Deborah Vetter

EDITORIAL BACKGROUND:

Executive Editor, *Cricket* magazine

Executive Editor, *Cicada* magazine

Editor, Cricket Books

Highland Fling by Kathleen Ernst

Chief Sunrise, John McGraw, and Me by Timothy Tocher

The Princesses of Atlantis by Lisa Williams Kline

Scorpio's Child and *Flying Lessons* by Kezi Matthews

Casebook of a Private (Cat's) Eye by Mary Stolz

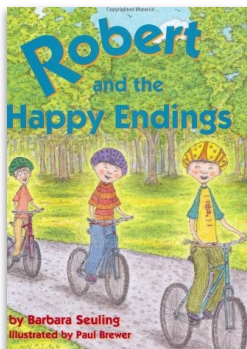
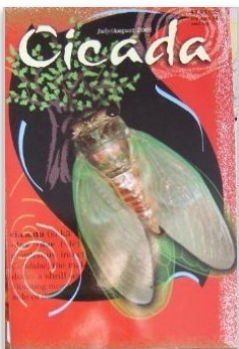
Several chapter books in Barbara Seuling's popular *Robert* series

Since 1986 Deborah Vetter has worked one-on-one with literally hundreds of authors and edited thousands of manuscripts, fiction and nonfiction, for children of all ages.

During her twenty years as an editor for *Cricket* magazine, she worked with such distinguished writers as Eric A. Kimmel, Nancy Springer, Aaron Shepard, Teresa Bateman, Josepha Sherman, Deborah Hopkinson, Howard Schwartz, Janet S. Anderson, and Eugie Foster. She has also worked with established authors outside the United States, including Geraldine McCaughrean (Great Britain), Hans-Eric Hellberg (Sweden), Deepa Agarwal (India), and Hooshang Moradi Kermani (Iran).

In addition to her responsibilities as Executive Editor for *Cricket*, she served as Executive Editor for *Cicada*, a bimonthly literary journal launched in 1998 to provide quality fiction for teens. When Cricket Books was established in 1998, she became an editor for the books division as well. Among the titles she acquired and edited are *Highland Fling* by Kathleen Ernst, *Chief Sunrise, John McGraw, and Me* by Timothy Tocher, *The Princesses of Atlantis* by Lisa Williams Kline, *Scorpio's Child* and *Flying Lessons* by Kezi Matthews, *Casebook of a Private (Cat's) Eye* by Mary Stolz, and several chapter books in Barbara Seuling's popular *Robert* series.

She has spoken at numerous writers' conferences around the country and written editorials, book reviews, and other pieces for the magazines. Today she is Senior Contributing Editor for *Cricket* magazine.



"If I could give only two pieces of advice, they would be (1) persistence is the key to achieving your goals as a writer, and (2) everything is grist for the mill."

DEBORAH VETTER

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Ms. Vetter's early career included a stint in the performing arts. After graduation from Knox College with a degree in theater communications, she spent five years in New York City pursuing the acting profession. Between classes, auditions, and performing in workshops and summer theater venues, she held long-term temp assignments at companies such as Time, Inc. (*People*, *Money*, and *Life* magazines), Hearst Publications, and the Girl Scouts of America. Her connection with the performing arts has come full circle as she now serves as office manager for a professional live theater company in her hometown.

Because of her theater background, Ms. Vetter views the editor's role as akin to that of a stage director. Just as a director teases out the best performance from actors in a play, so an editor works with individual authors, helping them to revise and polish their manuscripts until they are the best they can possibly be. Every author has a unique background, a unique perspective to offer, and Ms. Vetter believes an editor's role is to recognize the potential in each submission that crosses her desk.

