



Penguin  
Random House  
PENGUIN YOUNG READERS

April 2017

**RE: OKINAWA, JAPAN Through the Eyes of  
#1 Children's Author/Artist, JAN BRETT**

---

Dear Editor/ Producer:

**Jan Brett** is one of America's most beloved children's author/artists, with over **40 million books** in print—all of which are directly related to her **travels**. Her illustrations are beloved for their classic beauty, life-like images, and intricate details inspired by extensive research trips.

On one of Brett's many trips to Okinawa she met a baby octopus on a snorkeling excursion. She fell in love and was so taken by it that upon her return she went on to meet with "Sy," the Giant Pacific Octopus at the New England Aquarium.

**THE MERMAID** (Putnam, on-sale August 22, 2017), a departure from Brett's snowy winter holiday books, is an underwater version of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* starring a mermaid and three octopuses. Inspired by the Okinawan culture and its magnificent aquatic paradise, this is perhaps Brett's best art to date.

Her incredible body of work has largely been inspired by **love of nature** and strong **support of conservation**. She is a member of the National Audubon Society, the Chicago Zoological Society, The Wildlands Trust, and the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences.

Brett is a master of bringing the wonders of nature to generations of children and their parents, thanks to her travel research. She has studied flora, fauna, and local cultures throughout the Americas, the Arctic, Asia, Eurasia, Europe, and across Africa and has a history of setting lush retellings of fairy tales on almost every continent.

As fans have come to expect, this fall Brett will embark on a 23-market national tour aboard a "rock-star" style bus wrapped in artwork from her latest book.

Brett's books have been chosen as "Best Books of the Year" by *The New Yorker*, *Parents*, *Redbook*, and others. Thank you for your consideration; I look forward to speaking to you about coverage.

**PRESS KIT:**

[rhalee.com/janbrett2017](http://rhalee.com/janbrett2017)

Best regards,  
Rhalee



rhalee hughes public relations + marketing  
o. 212.260-2244 | m. 917.224-4457  
e. rhughes@rhalee.com | w. rhalee.com