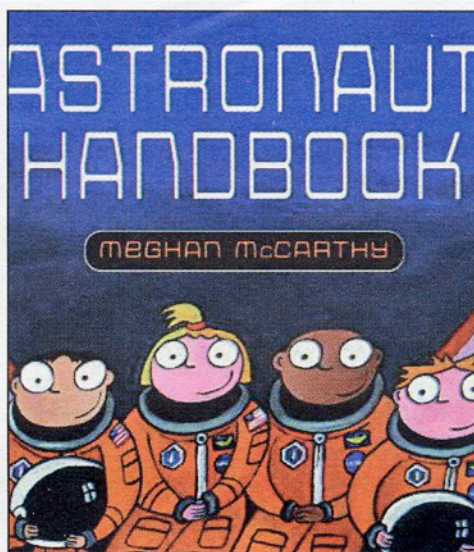


describes the revision process as torture. Once she finds an idea she'd like to write about, she writes a basic story and then researches missing facts. The edited text and preliminary sketches are sent to her editor. "We go back and forth forever," she says, "and I usually have to start painting before I'm done with the sketches." Ultimately, McCarthy appreciates the editorial process, scrapping text and whole pictures to make the best book possible.

Although McCarthy's nonfiction characters, both animal and human, come from different periods in history, she says "they are all the same in a way—they are strong, spirited individuals who know what they want." Seabiscuit, Pale Male, Charles Atlas, and NASA astronauts all triumphed over adversity.

As McCarthy's library of picture books grows, so do her accolades. Talented and determined, don't be surprised if you bump into her on the streets of Brooklyn struggling to master her new unicycle!



Next month: Meet Barney Saltzberg

Patricia Newman is the author of *Jingle the Brass* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). Her newest book, *Nugget on the Flight Deck* will be available from Walker & Company in Fall 2009. Visit her website at www.patriciamnewman.com.

MORE ABOUT MEGHAN MCCARTHY

HOW TO CONTACT MEGHAN MCCARTHY
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SELECTIONS FROM MEGHAN MCCARTHY'S LIBRARY AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR

- Seabiscuit the Wonder Horse*, Simon & Schuster, 2008.
- Astronaut Handbook*, Knopf, 2008.
- Strong Man: The Story of Charles Atlas*, Knopf, 2007.
- Aliens Are Coming: The True Account of the 1938 War of the Worlds Radio Broadcast*, Knopf, 2006.
- City Hawk: The Story of Pale Male*, Simon & Schuster, 2007.
- Steal Back the Mona Lisa*, Harcourt, 2006.
- The Adventures of Patty and the Big Red Bus*, Knopf, 2005.
- Show Dog*, Viking, 2004.
- George Upside Down*, Viking, 2003.

UPCOMING

- Pop! The Accidental Invention of Bubble Gum*, Simon & Schuster, TBA
- All That Trash*, Knopf, TBA.